May/June 2004 ISSUE

Alternative CENTRAL

A Publication for Central PA's Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender Community.

Celebrity Profile
Michael Thomas Ford is Mr. Faggot to You!
By Alexander Renault
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Susquehanna Art Museum Presents "Inner Circles" and Alexander Calder

Susquehanna Art Museum (SAM) concurrently presents the "Inner Circles" exhibit and "Alexander Calder and "The Natural Cycle" July 10-Sept. 30.

"Inner Circles" brings together

painters David Foss, Michelle Marcuse, Antonio Puri, Vincent Romaniello, Tremain Smith and one sculptor, James Fuhrman. All six are Philadelphia area contemporary abstract artists who work independently of each other.

Calder's work features lithographs, tapestries, and kinetic sculpture. In addition, a small mobile from a local collection will also be displayed. Essentially, the two exhibits explore the circle and cyclical motifs.

An opening reception is scheduled for July 11. Reception details available at 717-233-8668.

The motif of the circle is both historic and universal, notes exhibit curator Dr. Debra Miller. She's right. Within walking distance of SAM, art and architecture aficionados will find many representations of the simple "circle". (See The Veteran's Building

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Central Sighting: York Judy Shepard, Matthew Shepard's mother, here with *Alternative Central* publisher Frank Pizzoli, last month spoke on diversity to several hundred people at York's Strand Capitol Performing Arts Center. Penn State York, with financial support from Strand-Capitol, Giant Food, Isaac's Restaurant & Deli, DrewMar Catering & Ice Sculptures, Wolf Printing, York Newspaper Company, Penn State Bookstore, HBO, Border's Books, Music & Café, presented the event.

Central Sighting: Naples, FL Our paparazzi recently snapped Patricia Neal at a Joseph Logsdon Foundation arts benefit with playwright Christopher Tittel, right, and benefit patron Bill Ramaskewich, left. Tittle's play "True North", about the Boy Scouts and lessons learned has been presented at The Source Theater, Washington, DC.

Art Association of Harrisburg Hosts Year's "Most Prestigious Show"

By John Fox

The Art Association of Harrisburg (AAH) hosts its popular International Juried Exhibition May 15-June 17 beginning with a champagne, hors d'oeuve, jazz guitarist reception May 15, 5-8 p.m.

The International Juried Exhibition, the organization's 76th, is AAH's biggest and "most prestigious show of the year," says President Carrie Wissler-Thomas. The exhibition is open to the public and consists of works selected from nationwide and abroad.

"This year's judge is Stephen Phillips, curator of Washington's Phillips Collection," says Thomas. "Prize money is donated from various companies in the area." Thomas issued words of encouragement for those who fear rejection or may have been rejected in the past. "We always tell people not to be discouraged if you have not won in the past. Being rejected by one judge does not mean you'll be rejected by another."

Thomas talks with *Alternative Central* about some of the gay and lesbian artists associated with AAH.

Li Hidley, whose recent passing has been felt by many, was a revered artist and teacher at AHH for many years. Hidley came to Harrisburg in 1966 and began teaching classes in 1979.

"He came onto the scene when water color landscapes reigned supreme," explains Thomas of her late mentor and friend. "His expressionist work just took the place by storm. He developed a huge following called 'Hidley's People'."

Thomas explains Hidley's love of art and teaching.

"He embraced all forms of art," says Thomas. "The good ones who worked with him learned to be bold in pursuing their own style. He instilled in us a sense of spontaneity and freedom of expression so that we captured the essence of the model instead of trying to do a detailed portrait."

Hidley left all his paintings to AAH as an ongoing fundraiser and legacy. Thomas estimates that the association has 500 of Hidley's

works for sale or show.

"People came from all over the country for his memorial service," says Thomas. "It was the most touching ceremony we've ever experienced. The following week we spread his ashes in our garden. We were his family."

Over the years, AAH has offered many gay and lesbian artists outlets for their expression.

"Lorenzo Ayala taught classes here," says Thomas. "He grew up in the slums and felt he should give back to other young artists. He always gave supplies to the scholarship students."

"He had the worst language skills, but people didn't care because he was so gentle," says Thomas of Ayala. "He loved the Bal Masque and was always the most beautiful girl there. He was

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Playwright Larry Kramer Talks to Alternative Central

By Frank Pizzoli

"People believe what they believe at their own peril," author, playwright, and activist Larry Kramer recently told Alternative Central. He was referring to the lack of activism in the HIV/AIDS community and the rise of HIV infections young gay men.

Kramer once bristled with tiger-like energy. Although still concerned, he isn't angry anymore.

Since release of his controversial first novel "Faggots", in which gay men see liberation in sexual terms, Kramer's issued running commentary on how gay man view their world. Within a few years of the book's release came AIDS and Kramer morphed from writer to activist.

In the 1980s, he founded the Gay Men's Health Crisis, the nation's first agency helping gay men with AIDS. Today, it helps anyone with HIV disease.

Then, he founded ACT UP, the AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power, which became a blend of street theater and activism as it legions – never more than 10,000 strong Kramer told AC - underscored a dying community's plight.

Next came "The Normal Heart,"

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SPARC Rally Draws 40 to Legislators

March 31 more than 40 activists from all over Pennsylvania assembled at the capitol for "Voices for Pennsylvania Families," the Statewide Pennsylvania Rights Coalition (SPARC) fifth annual rally.

Guest speakers included Pittsburgh's Rep. Dan Frankel and Philadelphia Representatives Babette Josephs and Marie Lederer. Local ABC, CBS affiliates and PCN covered the event.

Most attendees gave up vacation time from work, found child care for their children, and drove their vehicles for hours in pre-dawn darkness to represent thousands of Pennsylvania lgbt individuals whose voices cannot be heard.

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Vermont, a Lesbian Paradise
by Winnie McCroy, NYC Correspondent
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Lambda International Car Club
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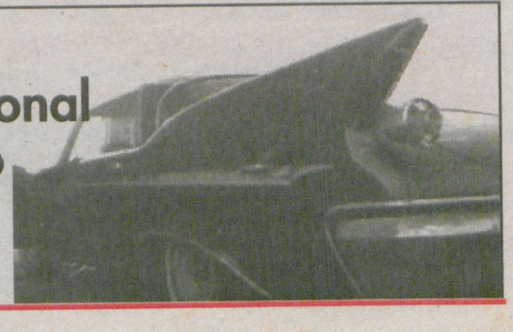

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Publisher's Letter

Vote or Wither on Political Vine

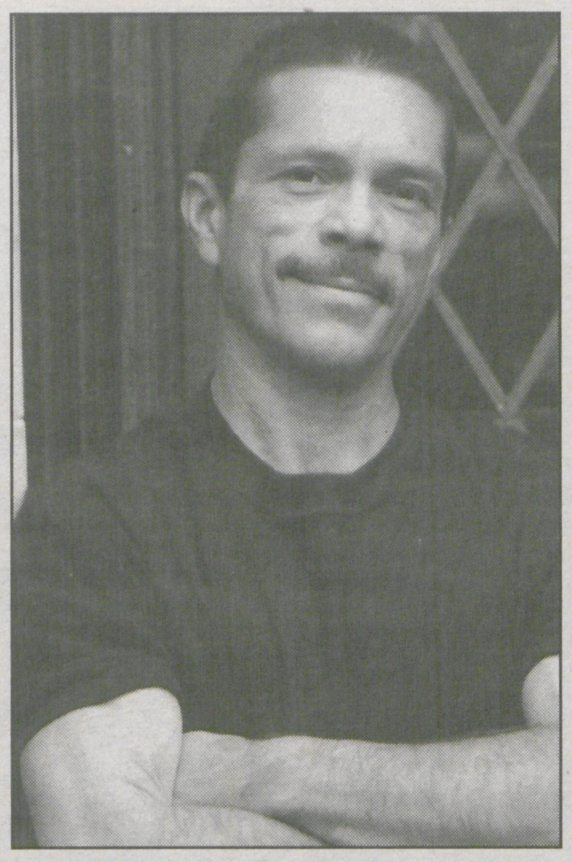
Last month, Judy Shepard told several hundred people in York's Strand Capitol Performing Arts Center that queer folk must (1) register to vote, (2) educate themselves about candidates (3) do the deed – and actually vote, (4) follow up with candidates they've voted for after the election, (5) and, finally, COME OUT.

I've often asked publicly: We swear to each other that the best bromide for hatred against us is to "come out", letting people get to know us. Why, then, are so few of us willing to do just that?

Why don't we vote in larger numbers? Don't cop out by responding that gay voters helped elect both Bill Clinton and George Bush. Fact is, they did. Another fact is that most central PA queers aren't even registered to vote, yet alone vote. All politics starts at home. If you don't vote, then you can't claim to have influenced the election of either president.

What more needs to happen before our community votes? The arrest of gay couples trying to marry? Mandated tattoos for queers? Montgomery County District Attorney Bruce Castor said he'll file criminal charges (see below) against same-sex couples issued marriage licenses. He's running for Pennsylvania state attorney general.

Yes, Virginia, there is an American Taliban. They don't like us. They're organized, financed, and waging a hate war against us. Some hate us because they believe their misperceptions about us – think "flat earth" folks. Others spew hate because they're cynical enough to use gay issues to preserve their own political power – think mostly Republicans with or without gay children or in the closet themselves. If in crowded discos we can spot a toupee, why can't we find the voting booth?



Since we began publishing almost one year ago, we've attracted wide attention.

Former New York Blade News and POZ magazine managing editor Winnie McCroy is now our New York City correspondent. Former big Apple magazine editor Suzy Martin is our Philadelphia correspondent. Vermont-based Ric Kadour Kasini is our new Men's Health columnist. These writers join Adrienne Mansfield, representing the Williamsport Region; Chris Kupchik, covering Wyoming Valley, and Rachel Thompson, filing from Allentown/Bethlehem.

We've also been selected for representation in the national advertising market by RIVENDELL MEDIA. They currently represent The Advocate, OUT, Instinct, and the Windows Media Group collection of publications.

In this issue, read about VP wife Lynne Cheney's "lesbian" novel, hear from celebs Michael Thomas Ford and author Larry Kramer. Read about the two Stonewall Democrats Chapters forming, one in Harrisburg. There's news on the politician who disclosed transgender identity and Bethlehem's Gay Prom.

See below for our usual news round-up with items from State College, Scranton, Pottstown, and all points queer of here.

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Central to your life.

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News page

PA "backward and behind the times"

Pennsylvania State Rep. Dan Frankel, D-Allegheny, in repelling unsuccessful anti-gay legislation by Rep. Jerry Birmelin, R-Wayne feared the state would be perceived as "backward and behind the times." "It *is* backward. Nothing else needs to happen," said one observer who works on Harrisburg's Capitol Hill.

Frankel said scores of colleges and universities, cities, Fortune 500 companies and 10 state governments provide same-sex benefits. More than 7,000 employers offer domestic partner benefits, according to Human Rights Campaign. Twenty-three percent of companies in 2003 offered domestic partner benefits for same-sex couples, unchanged from the year before, according to the Society for Human Resource Management. More than 30% offered domestic partner benefits to opposite-sex partners.

"Forward-thinking companies are all thinking about this right now," says Marc Lewis, North American president of Morgan Howard Worldwide, an executive search firm.

One local businessman said," The Pennsylvania General Assembly is an assembly of small-minded, fearful men ready to see the state decimated in order to preserve (their) status quo. If they cannot hold onto the past, then no one will be allowed to plan the future." He refused to be identified, adding "they're vengeful too."

Harrisburg, Pittsburgh Form Stonewall Democrats Chapters

Stonewall Democrats Chapters are forming in Pittsburgh and Harrisburg, joining Philadelphia's Liberty City Democrats/Stonewall.

"Pennsylvania is a large state with a diverse population. For lgbt people to make advances, we must act locally and think statewide," says Pittsburgh's club organizer Scott Safier. He has been consulting with Renee Gillinger and Mike Marsico from Philadelphia's Liberty City chapter, Eric Stern, Democratic National Committee, and PA State Rep. T.J. Rooney, state Democratic Party chair. Information at www.steel-city.org www.steel-city.org.

Organizers of the Capital City Stonewall Democratic Club, want central Pennsylvania lgbt residents "to more fully understand their value and strength as a political force". They said that although times have dramatically improved for gay people, "we are witnessing one of the scariest assaults on our lives in American history. No one can afford to be apathetic now."

One organizer, without any job protection and requesting to remain anonymous, said that if the coming election is as close as expected, "gay people could very well provide the margin of victory."

The groups will focus on educating the lgbt community about the differences between the political parties; mobilizing the lgbt community to vote on Election Day for fair-minded Democrats; and standing up when Republicans attack our families and our civil rights while we lead the Democratic Party to continue improving its record on issues important to our community.

Politician Discloses Transgender Identity

South Dakota's Rapid City Alderman Tom Murphy, 48, announced he is transgender. He will transition from male to female while in office. Murphy will live and dress as a woman for at least a year before undergoing gender reassignment surgery, reported the *Rapid City Journal*.

Murphy is thought to be the nation's first openly transgender elected official as well as the first politician to transition while holding public office. "I'm a transgender. I've just accepted that," Murphy told the Journal. "All my life I've done a good job of hiding it," Murphy said at the time of his announcement.

Central Pennsylvania's Mara Keisling, director of the Washington, D.C.-based National Center for Transgender Equality said, "Tom Murphy is incredibly brave. He has really looked at who he is and what he thinks he needs to be. He is a person of tremendous resolve." Murphy is 22-year Air Force veteran.

Bethlehem's HAVEN Hosts Gay Prom

Radisson Hotel, Bethlehem, hosts HAVEN's "Prizmprom", May 21 for lgbt folks age 14-20.

HAVEN stands for Hope, Acceptance, Validation, Equality, and Nurturing. Sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Lehigh Valley (UUCLV), the group's mission is to provide a safe, supportive environment, provide positive role models and peer support for youth 14-20.

The group hosts social, recreational activities, and weekly meetings including movie nights, dances, participation in community events, such as the Lehigh Valley Pride Festival & Parade, guest speakers, artists, musicians, hiking, plays, films, and other cultural events.

Parental involvement is encouraged. However, in order to protect confidentiality, parents are not allowed at meetings. They are encouraged to talk with facilitators outside of meetings. HAVEN is not a religious group. Nobody will be trying to convert anyone. All religious backgrounds are welcome.

A minimum of two professionally trained adult volunteer facilitators supervise all activities. Regular meetings are held Wednesdays 7-9 p.m., UUCLV, 424 Center Street, Bethlehem. Information at 610-868-2153 or havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com.

Allentown Transgender Doctor Reaches Deal

After assuming a female identity and claiming that St. Luke's Hospital-Allentown Campus made her give up a top teaching position because she is transgender, Dr. Gwen Greenberg has settled her discrimination complaints against the hospital.

Greenberg did not disclose details of the settlement.

''All outstanding matters between Dr. Greenberg and St. Luke's have been privately and amicably resolved at the satisfaction of both parties,'' her statement said at settlement time.

Greenberg also filed a discrimination complaint with the Allentown Human Relations Commission - the city's first to reference the controversial ''gender identity'' section. She also filed a complaint with the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission.

State College Hosts 100 at Coffeehouse

Nearly 100 State College people gathered for a successful coffeehouse and art auction in March.

The Coalition of LGBT Graduate Students at Penn State, GAIN (The Gay Affirming Interfaith Network of the Centre Region), and the Music and Arts Ministry of the University Baptist and Brethren Church of State College worked together to host their first LGBTA Coffee House and Fundraiser.

The theme was "Reflecting the Colors of Our Rainbow; Celebrating Our Loves, Passions, and Creations." Funds raised benefited the work of the Human Rights Campaign and the One in Ten Film Festival, a gay and lesbian film festival.

Montgomery County DA Threatens Criminal Charges for Gay

Montgomery County District Attorney Bruce Castor said he'll file criminal charges against same-sex couples issued marriage licenses. Castor is running for state

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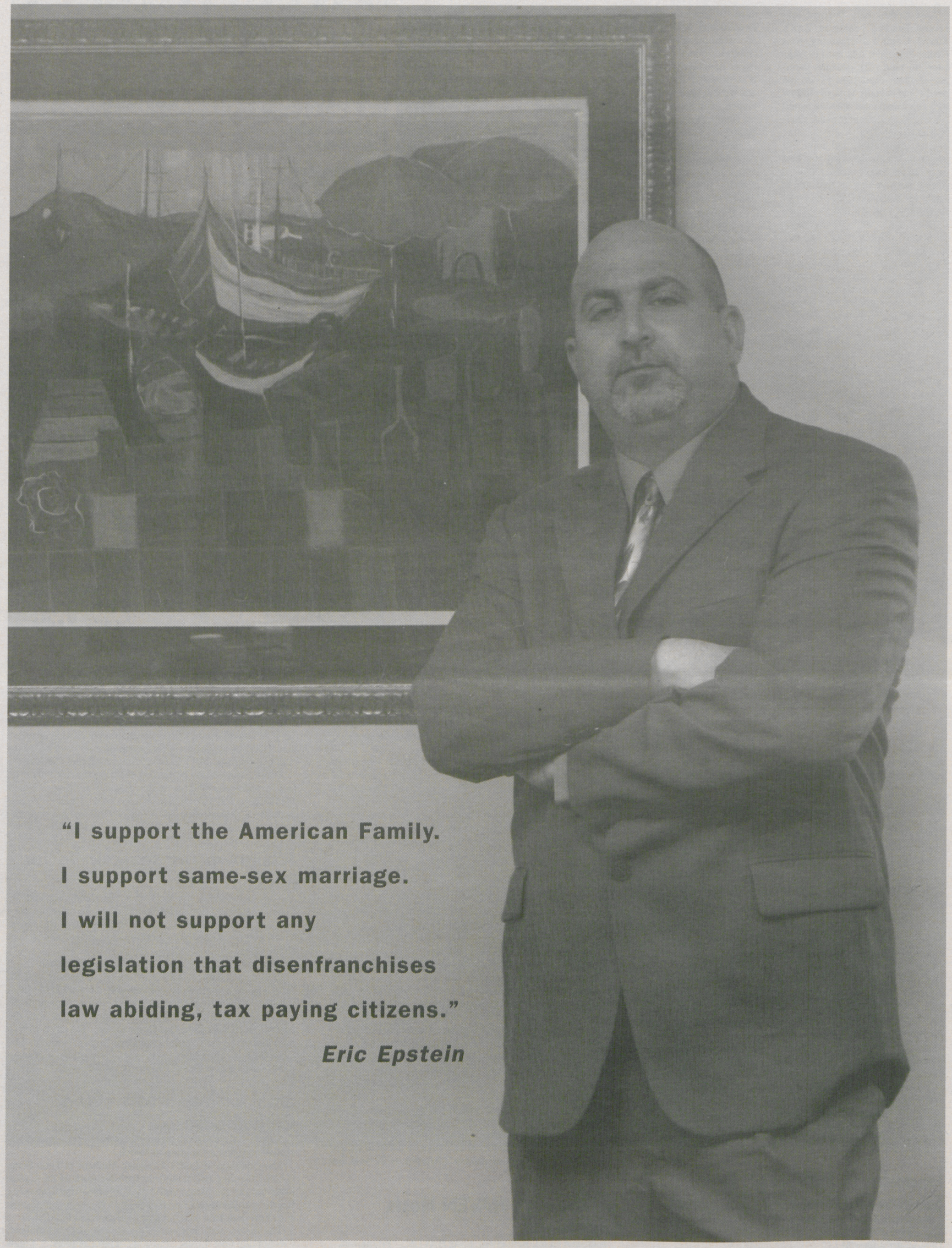

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Human Rights Campaign Allows PA Voter Registration Online

By Derek J. Cordier, Esquire

With everyone talking about how important this year's election is to our cause and the cause of civil rights for everyone, we should all know about the Human Rights Campaign. They work for all of us. You have may have already noticed their symbol, a yellow equal sign in a field of blue.

Founded in 1980, the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) has more than 500,000 members from all walks of life. They are the largest lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender organization to date. Their current president, Cheryl Jacques, was a prosecutor and state senator from Massachusetts who gave up a promising political career to head the organization.

HRC is bipartisan and contributes to candidates who respect our cause. Through their political action committee, the organization contributed more than $1.3 million to federal candidates in the 2002 election. Individual HRC members contributed more than $7 million to candidates.

You may direct your contribution to your favorite candidate through HRC in order to let that candidate know you support the organization's effort. They also track legislation, monitor judicial appointments, and lobby congress in all 50 states. You can check on your local legislators at http://www.hrc.org. I was surprised to see some of our legislators were rated favorably.

However, in one HRC press release dated March 21, 2003, PA senator Rick Santorum was praised for his work against legislation that would have used government funds for religious purposes. In another press release dated April 31, 2003, HRC expressed "outrage" at his remarks in comparing homosexuality with incest, polygamy, and adultery.

HRC's commitment to equal rights is an example we should all follow. They were active in the hate crimes legislation that was made law in Pennsylvania. They are active in opposing the marriage amendment, working towards workplace rights, and health care issues. They rate corporations through what they call a Corporate Equality Index.

HRC also publishes *Equality Magazine* on its politics and community work and the quarterly *LAWbriefs* on domestic and foreign law. Through HRC's Foundation the organization works on education and research.

If you can't get involved or donate money to the Human Rights Campaign, and you are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, or care about someone who is, you have a duty to register and VOTE. At the HRC website you can obtain forms to register. This year's election may determine whether we finally step forward into this century or slide back into the dark ages.

News page continued

attorney general.

He also stated that couples holding themselves out as married "are possibly committing frauds actionable by criminal prosecution." Offenders could be charged with obstructing the administration of law or a governmental function, a misdemeanor, Castor said.

'"There should be no Rosie O'Donnell weddings in Pennsylvania, and there won't be if I'm the attorney general,'" he said, referring to O'Donnel, who married her female partner in San Francisco, where more than 3,000 same-sex couples have been married since Feb. 12.

Couple Challenges PA Marriage Law

Denied a marriage license in March, New Hope couple Stephen Stahl and Robert Seneca will challenge Pennsylvania's marriage law. They will make their appeal in Bucks County.

"We are going to go forward," Stahl, a Bucks County Republican committeeman, told the media. "It was clear what we needed to do. Our rights are not being honored by this country."

Stahl said they won't file the appeal until after state legislators decide the fate of a bill that would further toughen Pennsylvania's 1996 Defense of Marriage Act. That decision could come as late as the end of July, when the Legislature ends its current session.

"Everything is a matter of time right now," Stahl said. "We don't want to throw any hammers into the works. We need to proceed politically and smartly."

Headlines You'd Love to Read

Region's Married Men Announce Mass "Coming Out"

New Song Heard on Local Radio

Metrosexual Trend Is Finally (Thank God) Over

VP Wife Lynne Cheney Authored Lesbian Novel

In his New York *Post* column, Lowdown, Lloyd Grove notes that Vice President Dick Cheney's wife, Lynne, is still remembered for her 1981 lesbian romance novel, "Sisters".

The book was recently feted in the East village by the "Lynne Cheney Players" as part of the New York Theatre Workshop celebration of radio personality Laura Flanders' new book, "Bushwomen: Tale of a Cynical Species."

Flanders told Lowdown that Cheney's novel "is a breathy, gothic romance, horribly written. It's celebrating lesbian love and promotes the value of preventative devices, condoms, to women who want to remain free. It features a woman who has unmarried sex with the widow of her sister - all this by Lynne Cheney, the culture warrior of the right." A crowd of 200, including actress Janeane Garofalo, laughed throughout the satirical staging.

Vice President Cheney's wife has been silent on the hot-button issue of gay marriage, although their 34-year-old daughter, Mary Cheney, is openly gay. President Bush has come out in a support of a proposed constitutional amendment that would ban gay marriage.

Billed as a novel about feminism in the Old West, the book features all of the things her husband's party reels against. There are plenty of condoms, lots of prostitution and a torrid lesbian love subplot.

Is "Barbie" a Lesbian?

An openly gay teenager settled for $30,000 from New York City after she was suspended for wearing a "Barbie is a Lesbian" T-shirt to school, reported the New York Times.

Now 15, Natalie Young wore the shirt to her middle school in 2002, where officials to sent her home for the day despite. At the time, the school had no official dress code.

Young said her settlement should make life easier on other openly gay schoolchildren: "I think they should feel more comfortable about who they are." She was pulled from class by a principal and then ordered to sit in an office until she changed the shirt. Young refused and was suspended.

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Changing Jobs? You've Got to Make a Decision – Fast

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There are many new challenges to face if you happen to be changing jobs or retiring – not the least of which involves the decision of what to do with the retirement funds that have accumulated in your 401(k) (and other retirement plans) over the years of service with your employer. These decisions may have a significant impact on your future financial security in retirement.

Option 1) Your employer hands you a check for the amount in your retirement plan. This may look like a bonanza, but selecting this option could be your biggest mistake. First, your employer is required to withhold 20% from your lump sum distribution, so you will only receive 80% of the amount you are entitled to. Second, if you are younger than 59 1/2, you may be subject to a 10% additional federal income tax penalty for early withdrawal. Third, you are liable for paying taxes on the full amount—if you fail to rollover your funds into an IRA within 60 days. Moreover, the money you spend now could have gone on earning tax-free returns toward your retirement. Which would you rather have—a small check now or a comfortable retirement?

Bottom line: This is most likely the least desirable option—avoid it if at all possible.

Option 2) Leave the money with your old employer. If you have more than $5000 in your former employer's retirement plan, you can usually leave the money where it is. (Check with your employer.) The advantage of doing this is that it relieves you of making a decision for the time being while maintaining the tax deferred growth of your assets. The downside is that you are limited to the investment choices offered by your ex-employer—or even fewer choices, since some companies have additional restrictions for non-active employees. Additional disadvantages are that you cannot make new contributions to your account and you may be charged service fees by your ex-employer.

Bottom line: This may make sense for some but better alternatives usually exist.

Option 3) Move your retirement money to your new employer. This option only works if you are moving to another job. Even then, your new employer may not accept rollovers from a previous plan or may impose a waiting period. Also, the investment options offered by your new employer may not be as extensive as you want. The benefit is that you maintain your assets' tax deferred growth and benefit from the convenience of having your assets in one place.

Bottom line: This can work for some, but you need to investigate first.

Option 4) Put the money into a traditional IRA Rollover. For most people, this option makes the most sense. By having your former employer's retirement plan pay the IRA custodian directly, you avoid the 20% withholding or any penalties. There are numerous benefits to your own IRA Rollover:

- A wide choice of investment opportunities—you can select the stocks, bonds, mutual funds or other investments that are right for you.
- The ability to consolidate retirement accounts. If you've had several jobs, you probably have several retirement plan accounts with different former employers. Putting them all together into one IRA Rollover makes managing them much more efficient. Recent federal income tax rule changes now allow IRA owners to add new contributions to their IRA Rollover without impacting the ability to roll these assets into an employer's retirement plan in the future.
- Ability to withdraw without penalty for some purposes. Even though all traditional IRA withdrawals are presumed taxable as ordinary income, the additional 10% penalty for early withdrawal can be avoided if the money in an IRA Rollover is used for certain items, such as some health insurance premiums, medical costs, higher education or the down payment on a first home. (There are restrictions on these uses. Contact your tax advisor.) In addition, withdrawals can be made without penalty by taking a series of substantially equal periodic payments for at least five years or until after you reach age 59 1/2. Thus, if you are planning to retire before you reach age 591/2, this method can enable you can dip into your IRA Rollover without penalty. Please note, there may be other eligible retirement plans which can accept funds.

Bottom line: You can avoid a lot of confusion and maintain the tax-deferred status of your funds by asking your employer to transfer the funds directly into an IRA Rollover.

Contact your financial professional to explore the details and decide if an IRA Rollover is right for you.

AXA Advisors, LLC does not provide tax advice. Please consult with your tax advisor regarding your individual circumstances. Along with risks specific to each security, investments in mutual funds, stocks and bonds are subject to market risk, meaning values will fluctuate and may include principal loss when redeemed.

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SPARC continued

SPARC executive director Scott E. Conlan convened the day at State Street's St. Michael's Lutheran Church, located near the capitol. For two hours participants engaged in a lively educational seminar on how to effectively communicate with legislators. By noon the rally was underway in the capitol rotunda.

Facilitators included Philadelphia's executive director of the Center for Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Stacey Sobel, Esq. and Lehigh Valley's Steve Black, Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Alliance (PA-GALA) political director.

Conlan also hosted SPARC board members Michael Snow, Pittsburgh P-FLAG advocacy chair, and Deborah Sieger, Ph.D., MCC of the Spirit's (Harrisburg) Rev. Eva O'Diam, One Spirit Project's Rev. Shelly Strauss Rollison, and Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission chair Stephen Glassman.

"Equal rights, freedom from hate, and legal access to the benefits of our society will continue to be issues creating an environment for lgbt community activism," Conlan says. Info: Statewide Pennsylvania Rights Coalition; 717-920-9537; sconlan@sparc-pa.org; www.sparc-pa.org.

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Women's Sports Foundation Offers $5000 Grants

The Women's Sports Foundation, a charitable educational organization dedicated to ensuring equal access to participation and leadership opportunities for all girls and women in sports and fitness, is accepting proposals for its Homophobia in Sport Project Grant program. The program is designed to provide for the development of research, community outreach, and educational programs addressing the issue of homophobia and other barriers to women's participation in sports. The grant application process involves an "open" deadline with grants continuously accepted.

Any bona fide researcher, local, regional, or direct action outreach organization committed to providing opportunities to girls and women in sports and fitness is eligible to apply.

Currently funds are only being administered to meet the needs of individuals and/or organizations addressing homophobia-related issues requiring immediate action such as employment, community health and safety, etc.

Grants of up to $5,000 will be awarded to qualifying organizations.

Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis in 2004. To download complete guidelines and/or an application form, visit the Women's Sports Foundation Web site. The RFP link is: http://womenssportsfoundation.org/cgi-bin/iowa/funding/featured.html?record=19.

For additional RFPs in Athletics/Sports, visit http://fdncenter.org/pnd/rfp/cat_athletics.jhtml.

Larry Kramer continued

a play about AIDS recently presented by AIDS · Community Alliance as a staged reading at Open Stage, Harrisburg. In reality, Kramer was angry character Ned Weeks. He made a special recording for the audience that night.

Last month, The Normal Heart opened in revival at the Public Theater in New York City. Tony Kushner's "Angels in America", screened on HBO last year, also heads to the stage for a revival.

Kramer is blessed and cursed – he inspires others to act. He said of his own work, "It goes like a pendulum, sometimes I hear the praise and most of the time I hear the attacks, mainly because that's what makes publicity." Kramer told AC he is upset by the disappearance of activist culture in the gay community.

"I think one of the most disheartening things is everyone seems to have forgotten the plague,

"People believe what they believe at their own peril," Larry Kramer says.

and not just young people, but older people who lived through it," he said. "It's almost like it didn't happen and everybody thinks it's gone away. That's hard to take."

He thinks the main ingredient needed for successful activism - fear - doesn't exist as much anymore. "For activism to be successful, people have to be afraid and I don't think people are afraid anymore," he says. "The two organizations I helped to start were started when people were really afraid. And ACT UP was started when people were terrified."

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News Page continued

Legendary Independent Filmmaker George Kuchar Visits Harrisburg

Movitate recently hosted legendary filmmaker George Kuchar, who screened three recent video works at Open Stage of Harrisburg. Kuchar, and twin brother Mike, who spoke at Moviate in 2002, are huge influences in the world of independent film scene. Together, they inspired legendary camp film director John Waters, as well as Andy Warhol, Tim Burton, Todd Solondz, and David Lynch. George Kuchar currently teaches film at the San Francisco Art Institute.

"His films are witty, campy and embody the Do-It-Yourself aesthetic that make independent films so exciting and fresh," says Moviate principle Caleb Smith. Smith also co-organizes the popular ArtFest Film Festival held Memorial Day eahcyear and now in it's sixth year.

A nonprofit film organization under the fiscal sponsorship of Berks Filmmakers Inc., Moviate is the region's film co-op, dedicated to bringing images created by artists and filmmakers that push the boundaries of art and cinema. The organization also serves as a resource for local artists and cinema enthusiasts. www.moviate.org.

Federal Workers Lose Job Protections

Federal lgbt workers recently lost job protections Special Counsel, Scott Bloch, interpreted a 1978 law protecting employees and job applicants from adverse personnel actions did not cover gays. Bloch said that while a gay employee would have no recourse for being fired or demoted for being gay, that same worker could not be fired for attending a gay Pride event.

The Log Cabin Republicans (LCR), a gay organization that backed Bush's 2000 election, is urging the administration appointee to restore information about sexual-orientation discrimination to an Internet site where federal employees can learn about their rights in the workplace.

LCR executive director Patrick Guerriero said that Bloch "is countering the promises of the Bush administration" to uphold nondiscrimination policies for federal employees.

Bloch formerly served as an official in the Justice Department's Task Force for Faith-Based and Community Initiatives. Perhaps there is an American Taliban after all.

Rhode Island State House Leader Gay

Rhode Island state House Majority Leader Gordon Fox announced he is gay and supports same-sex marriage. "It's an important message to get out," Fox said. "We are in these [elected] positions to lead." The Providence Democrat made his "out" announcement under the state Capitol dome surrounded by 150 supporters of same-sex marriage. The crowd burst into applause lasting several minutes. Fox is now the highest-ranking openly gay state government official in Rhode Island history.

Although members of Pennsylvania's General Assembly are known to be gay, and known to the state's gay community, none of them have come "out".

"We win this fight when we share our stories," said Dave Noble, executive director, National Stonewall Democrats and Rhode Island native, adding "having people in power to share their stories helps push us further along in our fight for equality." Fox has been in a committed relationship for six years. Afterward, he told reporters that his sexual orientation had not been a secret, and his announcement was completely unplanned and unscripted.

Treats All Men as "Bisexual" Black Woman Says

Linda Villarosa reported in *The New York Times* that some women, after seeing "Not a Day Goes By," a musical about black men on the "down low" who, while not calling themselves gay or bisexual, have sex with other men, often behind the backs of their wives and girlfriends, now treat all men as bisexual.

One source, Ms. King, told the newspaper that she's "been on field trips to the gay bars and have seen guys that look like men you would date." She said,"I don't want to end up as the sister with H.I.V." Government relations consultant Tracy Scott said, "Once I found out how prevalent the down low was in our community, I was very afraid."

Past concerns about black women and AIDS was mainly focused on those who had used drugs or had had sex with users. Increasingly, black women have begun to worry, too.

In government studies of 29 states, a black woman was 23 times more likely to be infected with AIDS than was a white woman, and black women accounted for 71.8 percent of new H.I.V. cases in women from 1999 to 2002. Though new cases of H.I.V. among black women have been stable in the past few years, the

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Art Association continued

very flamboyant and dressed in wonderful flowing gowns."

Thomas describes Ayala as very feisty, nice looking, Hispanic man. Ayala died in 1998 of AIDS. "He was a fighter," says Thomas. "He fought until the end."

Thomas tells a story of another gay artist, Larry Sterns.

"Larry did huge paintings of semi-nude and nude male subjects," says Thomas. "They were a little sultry and sexually charged but nothing overt. The day before one of his shows opened, in 1986, a board member called me and demanded that we take the show down because it offended him. He said that it would offend his wife and daughters. Of course I said 'no way'". Thomas explained that she refused to back down from such anti-gay attitudes and the show went on as planned.

Thomas talks about Terrie Lynn Smith and Sara Stroyan, a lesbian couple whose work are a beloved part of AAH. "Terrie did a wonderful portrait of Hidley," says Thomas. "She does a lot pencil and charcoal portraits. Sara does a lot of very poignant and evocative photos. They are a great couple."

Thomas summarizes AAH and emphasizes its acceptance of all lovers of art.

"AAH is a very welcoming place," says Thomas. "We welcome artists and art lovers of all genders, race, and age. Art knows no boundaries whatsoever. We embrace people and are delighted that people find joy in art and each other."

Summer classes begin July 12. Classes cost $60-$185 and accommodate people of all ages and artistic interest.

"Those who attend our classes are across the board whether they are high school students who want to build up their portfolio or senior citizens," explains Thomas. "There are a lot of middle-aged people who loved art in school and their parents discouraged them from pursuing it or they got busy with family or work. Now they are coming back to it because their partner is supportive."

AAH also hosts "meet the artist soirees", called "Signature Soirees".

"The soirees are hosted by board members at their homes and gardens and are open to the public," explains Thomas. "Each soiree has a different theme and artist, a great way to meet individual artists in a non-threatening atmosphere." Wine and hors d'oeuvre are served for $20 to $25 a person.

For more information: www.artassocofhbg.com.

Carrie Wissler-Thomas
Art Association of Harrisburg's President Carrie Wissler-Thomas prepares to host International Juried Exhibition May 15-June 17 with champagne, hor d'oeuve, jazz guitarist reception May 15, 5-8 p.m.

Sales Shop
Art Association of Harrisburg's Sale's Shop offers the public quality art.

Larry Sterns
Gay artist Larry Sterns "did huge paintings of semi-nude and nude male subjects," says Art Association of Harrisburg's President Carrie Wissler-Thomas. In 1986, a board member called demanded she take the show down. It offended him. Thomas responded, "no way".

Larry Kramer continued

About a decade after founding ACT UP, Kramer launched WAKE UP, a call to renewed AIDS activism. "Easier said than done. ACT UP didn't last but a few eye blinks and never involved more than 10,000 across the country. For as many gay people as there are, that's wasn't a lot. People don't seem to be activist minded and I have no idea why. We're a population that is pretty much unavailable to protest against a system that is so awful to us."

Within a few days of his AC interview, Harvey Fierstein (Hairspray) spoke at Manhattan's Gay & Lesbian Community Center where someone announced: "We need another Larry Kramer." With hoots and hollers, everyone agreed.

Lamenting activism's absence, Kramer said, "I no longer know why people don't fight back. I no longer understand why people don't stand up and fight for their rights, to get married, to have equal status with straight people. I've given up trying to find out why. If people don't have enough intelligence to know that you do not get more with honey than with vinegar, and that you have to fight like tigers, then we'll stay in the mess we're in."

In AIDS early years, decision-makers shirked responsibility by calling it a "gay" disease. "We said from the beginning it wasn't a gay disease, but people didn't want hear that. And it took a while for it to hit the straight population, during which time the gay label stuck. People believe what they believe at their own peril."

Speaking of "at our own peril," Centers for Disease Control reports that after declining every year from 1990 - 2000, the rate of primary and secondary syphilis in the US increased in 2001. For 2002, the number of reported syphilis cases

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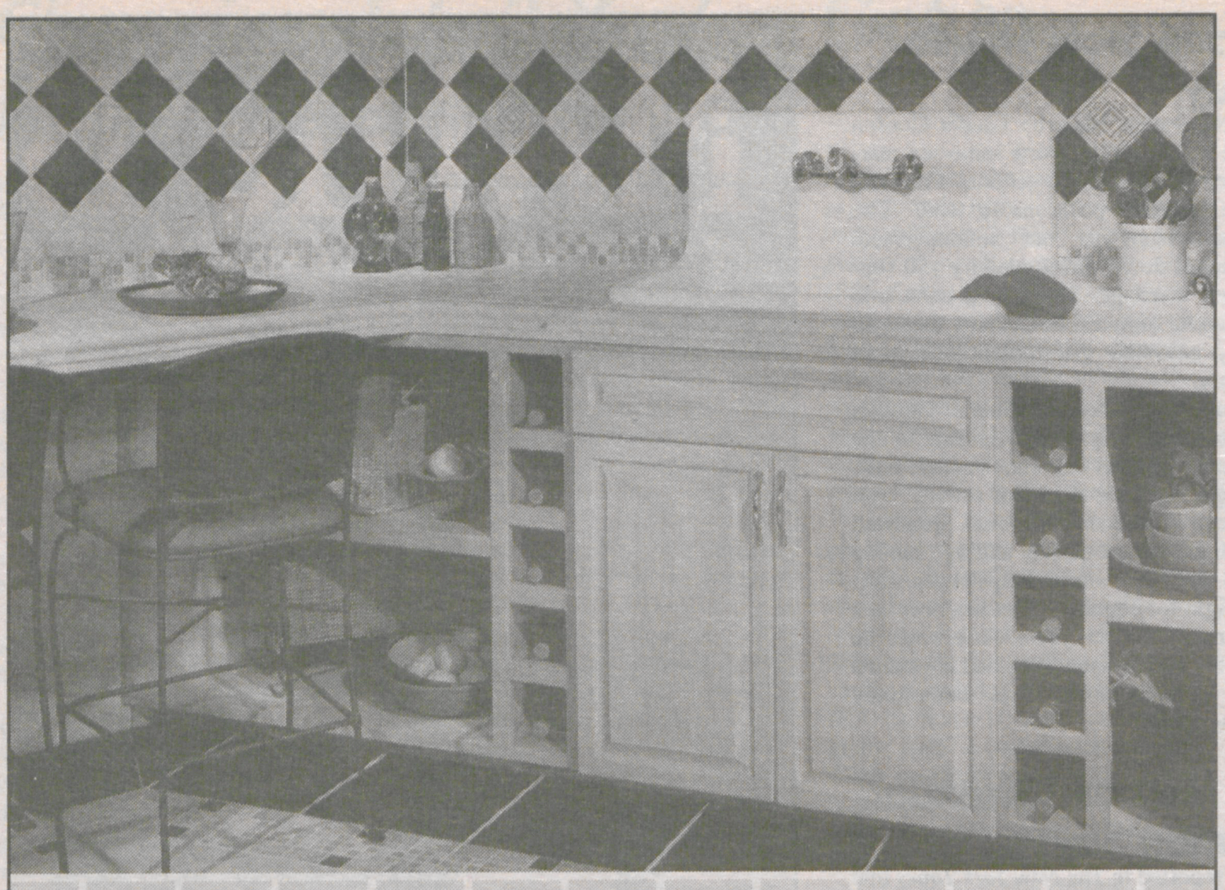

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Lesbian Notions: A Marriage Rights To-Do List

by Paula Martinac

After George Bush urged the U.S. Congress to write antigay discrimination into the American Constitution, I found myself feeling incredibly sad. Visiting a pro-marriage website, I gazed at moving photos of jubilant same-sex couples emerging from San Francisco's City Hall with their marriage licenses held high. Reading my local newspaper, I got emotional about an obituary for Bart Howard, the songwriter who gave us the lovely standard "Fly Me to the Moon," and who, the obit reported, is survived by his male companion of 58 years.

But even though sadness right now is understandable, gay people also need to get mad and take action. After all, the issue isn't really just equal marriage rights, which could take another generation for our community to achieve. The president of the United States has officially proclaimed that, although "America is a free society," gay people aren't as free as everyone else. Not only that, but Bush expects lesbians and gay men to accept our lesser status graciously. As he put it, efforts to pass the heinous Federal Marriage Amendment (FMA) should progress "without bitterness or anger."

Given Bush's fighting words, it doesn't really matter that many Washington politicos believe the FMA will never pass Congress. What really matters is the strong message Bush sent to straight Americans: Gay people are less than you, and that's the way it should be.

So here's a list of suggestions for getting mad and fighting Bush's plan to use marriage rights as a smokescreen for his own growing unpopularity.

1. Read the amendments to the U.S. Constitution, which are widely available online. Be familiar with what they actually say, and talk to friends and family about them. Unlike the FMA, which targets gay people for discrimination, other amendments have actually expanded the rights of citizens, particularly African Americans, women, and young people.

2. If you're a progressive, make a donation to the Democratic Party - even if the party's presidential nominee doesn't share every single one of your views. Send a letter with your contribution saying you'll give more when the party officially embraces marriage rights for gay couples as part of its platform.

3. Sign an anti-FMA petition and pass it along to straight friends and family. The People for the American Way (pfaw.org) are sponsoring "Save Our Constitution," which lifts the issue beyond the realm of gay marriage and places it in the broader context of the threat the FMA poses to the constitutional rights of all Americans. Even straight people who don't know what to think about same-sex marriage should be worried about a president who mandates writing discrimination into the Constitution.

4. Buy a pro-marriage-rights poster as part of your wedding present to a straight couple in your life; let them know you uphold their right to marry whom they choose and hope they will do the same for you. A gay-supportive straight photographer has made

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You Deserve to Feel Better Now

By Ric Kasini Kadour
Health Correspondent

Gay Men's Health. Say it out loud. "Gay Men's Health." The words have a nice ring to them. The phrase is upbeat, friendly. Who could disagree with health?

If we want everybody to be healthy and at their peak of well-being, why does the phrase "Gay Men's Health" provoke such a range of responses: from animosity to righteousness; from pathos to excitement?

Let's face it. The health of gay men has never been a priority in America. Even when HIV and AIDS was at the forefront, gay men were bastard step-children in the family portrait. With regard to HIV, they were often hidden behind teenage hemophiliacs and women "tragically" caught in the disease's rampage, who were more easily sympathized with as the disease's "victims".

AIDS wasn't taken seriously by federal policy makers until 1992. That's when the Centers for Disease Control, AIDS activists, and public health workers, desperate for prevention and treatment funding, successfully devised and executed schemes to "de-gay" the disease. To date, few federal health initiatives specifically recognize gay men. At best, they acknowledge gay men's behavior as "men who have sex with men".

Here's a new thought: HIV isn't a "gay" disease. Rather, a disease that some, not all, gay men acquire. The same as some, not all, acquire or develop substance abuse, experience domestic violence, sexual assault, or develop syphilis, gonorrhea, diabetes, emphysema, heart disease, and cancer. These health issues receive full attention from community, state, and federal programs. Policies govern how these diseases can be prevented, what services should be available. Policies also indicate how funding should be distributed to various communities and subpopulations. These policies, along with laws backing them up plus councils, commissions, and workgroups to carry them out, make up America's public health infrastructure. And it's one of the best public health systems in the world - if you're middle class, white, and straight. Not if you're gay.

Sadly, gay men, along with others in the queer community and people of color and poor people, have yet to reap the fruit of America's public health tree.

The 'apple a day to keep the doctor away' is kept just out of reach. And it shows in the numbers. For example, approximately 22 percent of Americans smoke tobacco, while 45-55 percent of gay men do. These rates are comparable to rural Asia. Approximately 1-2 percent of Americans are HIV positive, but in some urban centers estimates indicate 20-25 percent of gay men are HIV positive. Only in the last 5-10 years has Africa reached these levels of infection. Gay men's rates of substance abuse, sexually transmitted diseases, and body image problems all outpace the rest of America. Yet, the issues which effect gay men receive little attention by the public health infrastructure.

Gay men deserve better. Same-sex marriage seems to be on every-

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How Ordinary Individuals Create Wealth

By Darla M. Huber, Financial Consultant
Janney Montgomery Scott LLC
in conjunction with AIM Mutual Funds

You wouldn't take a vacation without knowing where you're going. If you don't plan ahead, how will you know where you are going to wind up? The same is true with creating wealth. Before investing, first have a good idea about your goals. Before you can effectively create wealth, first develop a plan with financial instruments appropriate for your goals.

What is success?

To identify investment goals (both short term and long term), first develop a picture of what success means to you. You may define success as having enough money to afford a boat and a beach house, as well as a comfortable retirement; or as being able to put 20 percent down on the purchase of a home; or as putting kids through college. Establishing realistic, specific goals (including cost estimates) is the first critical step in prudent planning and creating wealth.

Taking into account your ability to tolerate risk, as well as the indispensability and immediacy of your goals, helps ensure that appropriate resources are allocated to each component of the financial plan and that each component serves its purpose. Since retirement is on almost every investor's list of goals, the following will focus on efficient ways of investing toward that goal.

Saving for retirement

Retirement is expensive. What is your plan for retirement? When? Where? What do you hope to do? These are some of the questions you should be answering in planning for a successful retirement. So how can you afford retirement? Plan now and keep a long-term perspective—saving for your future requires many years of investing in a plan that has the potential to grow faster than inflation and provide shelter from current taxes.

It's important to determine what retirement plans you have, how much to invest in each, how that money is invested, and whether or not you expect to have enough resources to retire when and how you want to. Retirement plans - including 401(k) and 403(b) plans, pensions, and both traditional and Roth IRAs - represent an important part of your ability to achieve a comfortable retirement. These and other tax-deferred retirement plans allow your potential earnings to grow without being reduced by current taxes.

Employer Retirement plans

Begin by looking at your employer-sponsored retirement plan(s). Payroll deductions make such investing easy to accomplish and maintain. Many employers offer some form of matching employer contributions to employees who are investing. By not taking advantage of such options, you can essentially be leaving free money on the table. The plans themselves vary, but everybody should make a concentrated effort to stay informed about and take advantage of available options.

IRAs (individual retirement accounts) come in a variety of forms and can serve a variety of purposes. Recent tax law changes have made IRAs even more appealing. All IRAs offer tax deferment, but now many newer versions have been created, including the Roth IRA, which allows savings to grow not only tax-deferred but tax-free when certain criteria are met.

For those who qualify for Roth IRAs, I have generally found through personal comparisons of these to other tax-deferred accounts that Roth IRAs generally provide more favorable outcomes for the majority of people. They should probably be your second priority once you've obtained whatever "free" employer contributions might be able to be made to a company plan.

Roth IRAs also have more flexible rules pertaining to accessing your funds and maintaining control of distributions. While maximum contributions to all IRAs are still limited to relatively small annual amounts, everybody owes it to themselves to find out if these accounts might be of help to them. And as opposed to company plans, where you are generally limited to company-chosen investment choices, you have complete control over investments within IRAs.

Early planning is key to building retirement assets and creating wealth. The longer you wait to begin saving, the more you'll have to save to accumulate the nest egg you'll need. Whatever your age, now is the right time to start thinking about your financial and retirement goals.

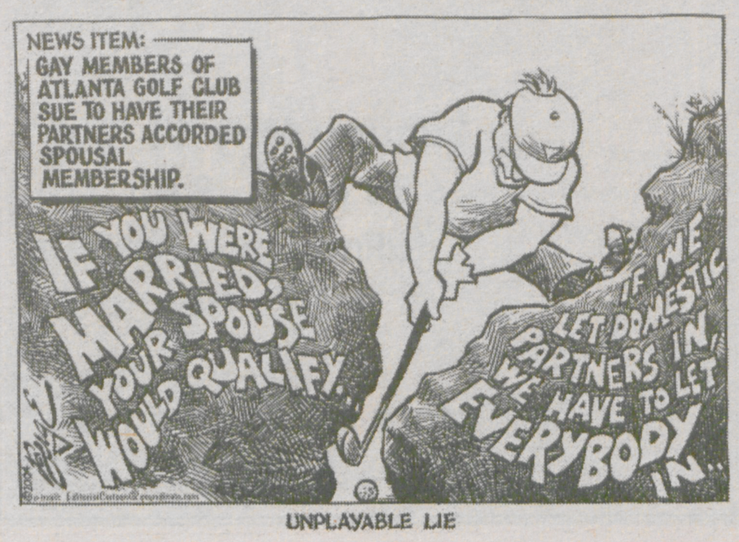
available a beautiful poster called "Justly Married," showing the steps of San Francisco's City Hall the day after Valentine's Day strewn with rice and rose petals (for purchase, visit ephemera.org/justly). All of the photographer's proceeds go to DontAmend.com, an anti-FMA organization.

5. Organize against state officials who are using Bush's support of the FMA to shore up antigay legislation at the state level. The Rocky Mountain Progressive Network (rmpn.org) has launched a campaign in Colorado called the "Fidelity Pledge," designed to expose the hypocrisy of straight elected officials there. Politicians are being asked to sign a public oath that they are personally "protecting" the institution of marriage by being faithful to their spouses. Maybe we can move the campaign to California and see if Gov. Schwarzenegger - who says he's afraid that gays getting married will incite riots - will sign.

6. Talk to straight colleagues, friends, and family about the war that's being waged against the gay people they care about. Talking points are available at the website of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (ngltf.org), which has a Marriage Information Resource Center with documents like "Speak from Your Heart to Family and Friends" and "Conservatives Against the Federal Marriage Amendment." For the religious folks in your life, there's information on what the Bible says about homosexuality and marriage at religioustolerance.org.

7. Finally, don't get fixated on Mary Cheney's refusal to become a marriage-rights activist - as if she alone stands in the way of our equality. What if all the people who've posted letters to the vice president's daughter at DearMary.com also sent thoughtful letters about the FMA or same-sex marriage to the editors of their local papers? We might then be able to engage the sympathies of people who can _really_ have an influence on the Bush-Cheney team - all the voters who will go to the polls in November.

Paula Martinac is a Lambda Literary Award-winning author of eight books and editor in chief of Q Syndicate. She can be reached care of this publication or at LesbianNotions@qsyndicate.com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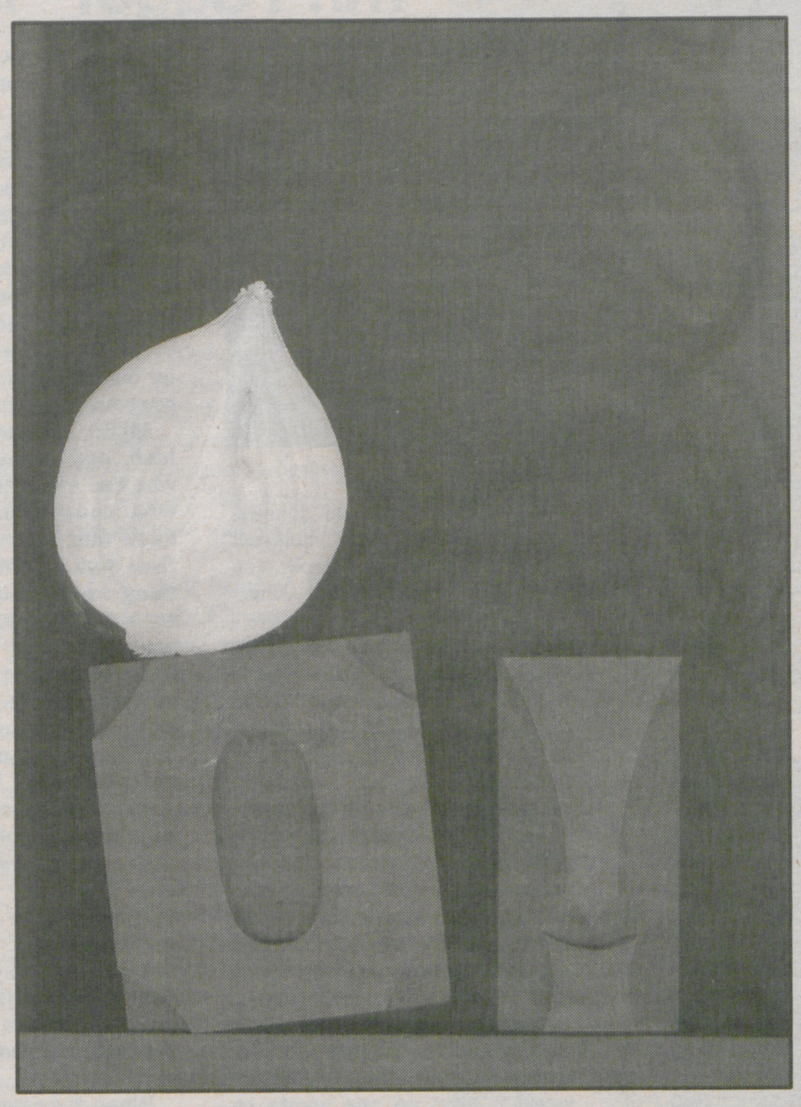

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News Page continued

number of those who have been infected through heterosexual sex has risen.

In 2001, according to the Kaiser Family Foundation, a nonprofit group focusing on health issues, an estimated 67 percent of black women with AIDS contracted the virus through heterosexual sex, compared with 58 percent four years earlier. Black women accounted for half of all H.I.V. infections acquired through heterosexual sex, in men or women, from 1999 to 2002, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said.

A Gun or Glad to See Me?

James Joseph Minder, 74, wasn't expecting the telephone call he received last winter in Scottsdale, AR, asking him if he was Michigan's notorious felon aka "Shotgun Bandit"?

As chairman of gun-maker Smith & Wesson, he knew he was in a pickle.

He correctly surmised that the company would not be happy to learn that he used an S&W revolver, and then a sawed-off 16-gauge shotgun, for a string of armed robberies in the 1960s.

Minter relied on dark glasses, trench coats, and flat-top hat to disguise himself. He escaped from prison once. His last prison stay was in 1969 and he has distinguished himself in more positive ways since then. Minter has resigned as chairman of the gun-making company.

Man Stops Catholic Mass to Defend Gay Marriage

A gay man recently interrupted a church Mass to tell congregants he objected to a video opposing same-sex marriage.

Chuck Colbert stood up after the eight-minute video, identified himself as a Catholic and said he objected to the video, according to media sources. "We called police to maintain order," explained Rev. Michael Doyle of St. John the Evangelist church. "We had no interest in pressing charges against anyone." Police said they went to the church but made no arrests.

The video was shown a day before the Massachusetts Legislature renews debate on a proposed constitutional amendment that would ban same-sex marriage. The video's female narrator urged listeners to contact lawmakers to vote against gay marriage and civil unions. The message claimed civil unions "discriminate against the poor and needy," and would hurt the economy by paying out Social Security survivor benefits.

"I just found it to be such a scurrilous, scandalous piece of misinformation," Colbert said. "For me to sit there and take it is out of the question." "My life is very similar to the people in there," Colbert told New England Cable News outside the church. "I want to be married, I have a wonderful partner, we're building a life together, it in no way threatens anyone else."

New Reality Show Tests Survival

Due to the popularity of "survivor" shows, several southern TV stations announced a joint effort to produce "Survivor: Southern Style."

The contestants start out in Alabama, travel over to Georgia and on to South Carolina. From there they will head up to North Carolina and over to Tennessee.

They will then proceed down to Mississippi and Louisiana, finally ending up back over in Alabama.

Each contestant will drive a pink Volvo with New Jersey license plates and large bumper stickers that read: I'm Gay; I'm a Vegetarian, NASCAR Sucks, Go Yankees! Smoking is for idiots, Hillary in 2004, Deer Hunting is Murder and, I'm here to confiscate Your Guns!

The first one that makes it back to Montgomery alive wins.

UN Gay Rights Resolution Withdrawn

Brazil has withdraw its motion to integrate "sexual orientation" into the United Nations stance on human rights. The country first introduced the resolution during 2003's UN Commission on Human Rights, although action on the measure was delayed until this year's Geneva meeting.

If accepted, the move would have been the first time that sexual orientation was included in human rights, and was championed as the first time lesbian and gay people would be protected by the UN. However, Muslim member states and the Vatican City, which retains UN observer status, had moved to shoot down the resolution when introduced to the assembly.

"Millions of people across the globe face imprisonment, torture, violence, and discrimination because of their sexual orientation," said British Labour MEP and gay activist Michael Cashman.

Bank Axes Loan to Anti-gay School District

An Orange County, CA, school district refused to amend its school discrimination policy to reflect a

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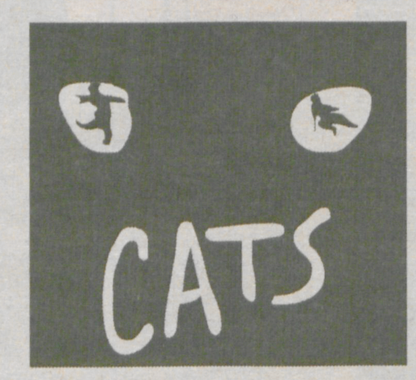
Have Dinner with a Few Characters this Summer!

May 20 - June 26

When 1950's Elvis-like star Conrad Birdie gets drafted, teenage fans are ready to riot! If you loved ***GREASE***, you'll love this high energy hit!



July 1 - September 4

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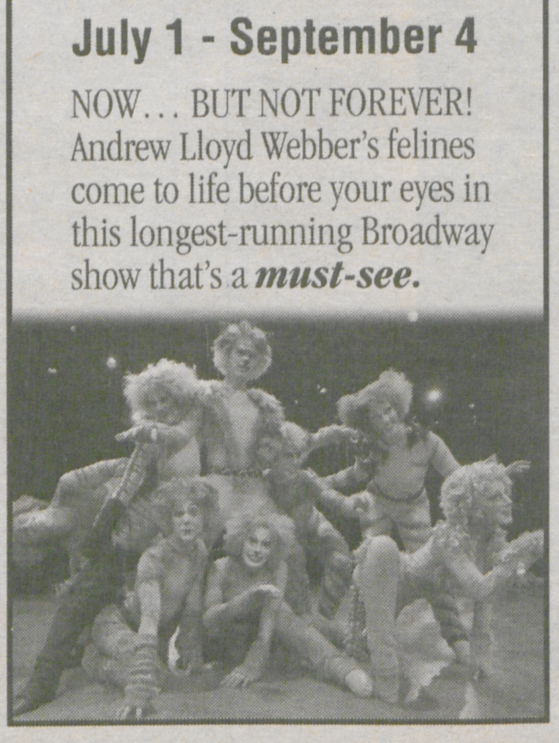

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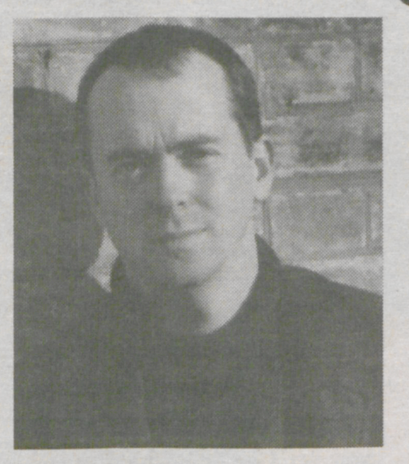
Celebrity Interview

Michael Thomas Ford Is "Mr. Faggot" to You



By Alexander Renault

It's universal truth the funniest among us are the most intelligent and the most intense. People with the gift of humor reach others because they're aware of life's ironies. Add artistic flair and you get Michael Thomas Ford. From a comedic breakthrough in 1998 to four books nominated, two winning, the Lambda Literary Awards for Best Humor, Ford has long entertained audiences and readers alike.

Alexander Renault: Michael, you vacillate between different genres: books for young people, gay humor, gay sex, political commentary, novels, and erotica. Has success in one area given you more self-confidence to try new things?

Michael Thomas Ford: One of the things I very quickly learned about the publishing world is that no one wants to let you do anything you haven't already done successfully. If you've published nonfiction, they don't want to let you write fiction. If you've published for children, they don't want you to write for adults. If you've been successful doing essays, they don't see you as a novelist. Editors, readers, and reviewers like to know what they're in for when they pick up something that has your name on it. It also makes selling you easier, which publishers and booksellers like. When you do too many different things it confuses them.

AR: Where did you get your flair for humor? Where you a sensitive, perceptive, and creative adolescent?

MTF: My family heritage is Irish and Norwegian. Anyone who has spent time with people who come from either stock know that we love nothing more than dark humor. I blame everything on my ancestors. My sister says I always looked like I was expecting bad news. But the interesting thing about pessimistic people is that, really, we're far more optimistic about the potential of people than optimists are. Pessimists are grumpy because we know what people are capable of and we're angry and depressed that they aren't living up to that. Optimists take the easy way out and accept that things are fine the way they are. Whenever a critic says that I'm bitter I always think, "Okay, another one who simply doesn't get it."

When it comes to writing for young people, you can actually be much darker than you can when writing for adults. Kids can accept the idea that the world can be a shitty place,

continued on page 12

Inner Circles continued

on Front & Market Streets or many objects d'art along the Susquehanna River). It appears in virtually all cultures, mythologies, and religions as a symbol of perfection, completion, and eternity, Miller says.

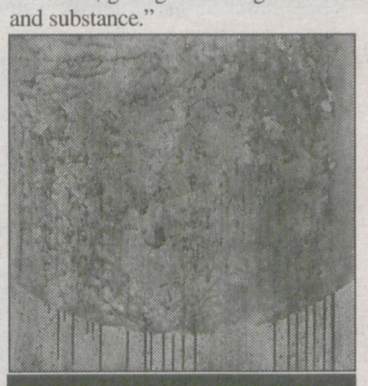
For example, in her "Inner Circles" catalogue essay, Miller notes that the Zen *enso* (literally, an "open circle"- -a calligraphic brush and ink painting originating in Japan's Edo Period of the 18th century) may, on the surface, represent a dragon chasing its own tail, a full moon, the face of the Buddha, a turning wheel, or an empty teacup, but its symbolism expresses many deeper ideas; the endless circle of life, the emptiness of the void, the fullness of the spirit.

In Native American lore, the circle (or hoop) signifies the never-ending cycle of life, which begins at birth, continues through childhood, adolescence, adulthood, old-age, and death, and remains unbroken in the soul's rebirth on Earth or in the spirit world. Christian iconographers traditionally have employed the circle as a symbol of God and ever-lasting life, and the circular ring is still used as a sign of unending devotion, presented to one another by couples taking their wedding vows and designed by Amish quilt-makers into matrimonial bedcovers.

In Antiquity, the 2nd-century Roman architect/engineer Vitruvius recognized the perfection of the circle, in which a well-proportioned human figure, with arms and legs extended, could be inscribed. During the Italian High Renaissance, Leonardo da Vinci echoed this classical paradigm in his well-known drawing of *The Vitruvian Man*. The circle is inherent in atoms, cells, seeds, eyes, heads, planets, stars: it is the basic form of life in the microcosm and macrocosm. In modern psychology, Carl Jung explained the circle (or sphere) as a symbol of "Self," expressing the totality of the psyche, including the relationship between man and nature. Whether in primitive sun worship, in medieval ground plans of cities, or in the spherical conceptions of early astronomers, the circle, according to Jung, always points to the most vital aspect of life—its ultimate wholeness.

The six non-objective artists featured in "Inner Circles," unbeknownst to one another, each created a body of work in which the *Leitmotiv* of the circle plays a central role. "For them, the circle serves more than just a decorative compositional function; it has a profound inner meaning to each individual," Miller says.

The group exhibition is presented in honor of the intrinsic expressiveness and personal significance of this recurrent form. "Be it in encaustic or steel, oil paint or collage, the circle, dot, and sphere unite these artists in a single focus: the aesthetic and symbolic exploration of the universal," Miller notes. "They speak for a new generation in the history of an age-old motif, giving it new signification and substance."



Artist Antonio Alexander Puri's "Mudra" on display with other Philadelphia-based artists at Susquehanna Art Museum July 10-Sept. 30 along with Alexander Calder's work. www.antoniopuri.com

Lehigh Valley Plans 2nd Inclusive Worship Service

By Rachel Thompson
Allentown/Bethlehem Correspondent

"All Together Now", a Lehigh Valley ecumenical faith-based coalition, invites all people of faith to attend a second annual lgbt-inclusive and welcoming worship service. The Christian multi-denominational service will be held at St Johns Lutheran Church located at 32 South 5th Street, Allentown, 2 p.m., June 12.

Refreshments and conversation will be available after the service until 5:00 p.m. Organizers hope that all loving people will attend and support efforts to reach the most marginalized and undervalued members of the Christian community: lgbt people of God.

"Help us to build bridges of acceptance and understanding, as Jesus would have us do so that many more will be saved," says one organizer.

Guest speaker is Bishop Paul V. Marshall, Episcopal Diocese of Bethlehem. He will speak on "The Gay Faithful; Equal before God". A combined choir with members from the "Lehigh Valley Gay Men's Chorus" and choir members from many other organizations, will sing.

Organizers are asking the public to "come help us celebrate God's diversity. Now is the time for all people to come together in God's love.

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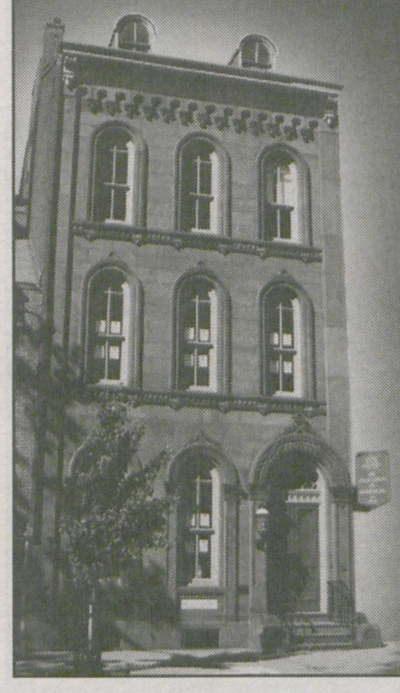

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Lambda Car Club International Grows to 34 Members

By Paul Phillips

On TV today, chances are you'll find some gay-orchestrated makeover show. But how about a show where a gay man extols the virtues of a '67 Chevy?

Maybe it's not prime time yet, but in central Pennsylvania, lgbt autophiles have been around for 22 years. In fact, the Central Pennsylvania Region of the Lambda Car Club International (www.Lambdacarclub.com) has grown from eight to 34 members in the last few years.

"You do not have to own a car to be a member of the club," explained Central PA Region Director Paul Phillips. "You only need a fondness for classic cars and related memorabilia. We have members who do not collect cars; some collect service station memorabilia, maps, auto literature or model cars.

"The club is open to all lgbt members - not just gay men," he continued. "There are lesbian members who have joined other regions as well, which is fantastic."

Harrisburg resident John Ball founded the Lambda Car Club International (LCCI) in 1982. However, it was during the preceding summer that the wheels were put in motion, when Ball attended an antique automobile event in Macungie, PA, known for being held on a hot day the first weekend in August. There are lots of men looking at the cars and Ball wondered how many "car guys" might also be gay.

Surprisingly, his wife (Ball remains married, after coming out four years earlier), suggested Ball place an ad in the well-known Hemmings Motor News announcing formation of an openly gay car club he called the "Gay Old Car Owners Society." Due to complaints from straight readers, the ad ran only once.

However, Ball received dozens of letters from gay classic car collectors who with a passion for antique automobiles. Ball arranged a meeting and about 25 guys formed the car club, elect officers, and quickly scheduled events. Before long, some members thought that "Gay Old Car Owners Society" was a bit much for the early '80s, plus they

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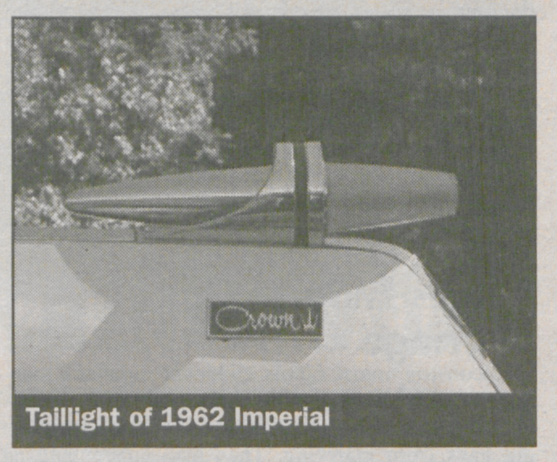
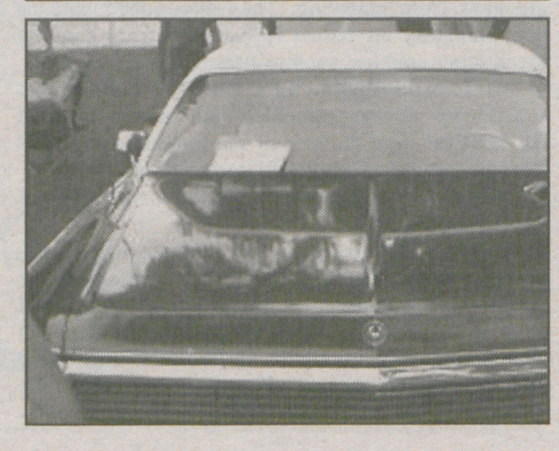
Member's 1956 "Ballerina Red" Hudson Rambler



Taillight of 1962 Imperial



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probably because they still see their lives as endless opportunities and possibilities, whereas adults want to be comforted.

AR: Your humor is praised for its honesty. You point out foolishness and charades, reminiscent of Lenny Bruce. Given some of your negative observations of the gay community, have you come under fire for being too honest?

MTF: The sad part about writing things you hope will challenge people to think differently about their lives is that, for the most part, the people who need to read them almost never do. So often you're preaching to the converted. I've actually only ever received one piece of negative mail about a piece, and that was from a fellow who was angry over a completely tongue-in-cheek column I wrote making fun of the gay hankie code and suggesting that rather than acting as a sexual thing it would be much more useful as a way of warning people about the mental health issues of potential partners. Ironically, that piece was one of two I wrote that were selected for inclusion in the anthology More Mirth of a Nation: The Best American Humor Writing.

I've only written one column that I really thought would generate negative press. It was called "My Contract on America," and it was a fantasy about how if I ever found out I had a terminal illness I would go on a killing spree and take out various people who were anti-gay. The piece was rejected by literally a dozen publications because the editors feared a backlash. When it finally was published, no one took offense to it at all. I was actually sort of disappointed.

AR: In your writing career, what event or experience made you the happiest? How about the angriest?

MTF: I don't really have a specific happiest moment. I'm happiest about the fact that I've been able to do this for a living for a dozen years now. I'm unhappiest about the fact that there's not enough time to do everything I'd like to.

AR: Last question. What about you would surprise your fans—what might really shock them?

MTF: I don't think my fans would be shocked by anything. Possibly that I voted for George Bush, Sr. the first time around or maybe that I collect GI Joes. My readers are a pretty odd bunch themselves.

Alexander Renault is a pen name. Renault is the editor of the non-fiction anthology " Walking Higher: Gay Men Write About the Deaths of Their Mothers". AlexanderRenault.com.

body's mind at the moment. The issue is important because recognition of our loving relationships will allow us to feel a part of society's institutions. If we're part of society, and we certainly are when we pay taxes, we can better reap benefits derived from when enlighten societies come together for the betterment of all.

Marriage is not the only institution that needs to be responsive to the needs of queer people. It's time for our nation's public health infrastructure to be responsive as well.

Ric Kasini Kadour is former Program Director for Seattle's Gay City Health Project and former coordinator of Vermont's Men's Health Project. He lives and works as a freelance writer and consultant in Vermont.
ric@kasinihouse.com

found it difficult to make hotel reservations for the club using the name. So, the name was changed to The Lambda Car Club, referencing the Greek symbol that has been synonymous with the gay rights movement.

Today the name of the club is Lambda Car Club International and is composed of 29 regions across the United States with approximately 2,000 members. There are members from England, Germany and Canada as well. The LCCI logo is a pink triangle emblazoned with a 1959 Cadillac taillight.

The LCCI Central PA Region meets monthly; meetings are held at the homes of the members or area restaurants on the third Tuesday of each month. Once business is out of the way, meetings quickly turn to socialize. In summer months, club members get together for road trips, pool parties, barbeques and picnics.

"Each of our members brings something valuable to the table," Phillips added. "Everyone respects each other's likes and interests. Whether you like Ramblers, Buicks or model cars, it does not matter - we are all here for the fun of the hobby."

"It is great to caravan to New Hope or Rehoboth in a parade of classic cars," said Phillips. "Also, there is safety in numbers. If a car breaks down, we all stop and stick together. There is something very adventurous about taking a 40-year-old Chrysler convertible on an 11-hour drive to Provincetown and back!"

The Central PA Region's primary activity each year is sponsoring the Fall Hershey Car Show event, the world's largest car collector event with a flea market

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state-mandated anti-discrimination law. The refusal cost the district $16 million in a lost loan by Bank of America.

The Westminster School District recently announced that the bank refused extension the loan after school trustees refused to revise the district's anti-discrimination policy. Last month three of the five trustees voted not to revise the policy to adhere to a state law requiring public school districts to protect groups from discrimination - including transsexuals and those who do not embrace traditional gender roles.

Citing their Christian beliefs, trustees said the law was "offensive and immorally allowed teachers and students to define their sexual identity". Their mixing of "church and state" also could trigger a loss of up to $40 million in state and federal funds, throwing the district into financial chaos.

In Perry (Iowa) High School a senior is suing the school district for failing to protect him from alleged harassment by fellow students for his perceived sexual orientation. The unnamed student claims during his four years in high school he has been the victim of numerous verbal and several physical attacks. The teenager requested an injunction preventing officials from suspending or arresting him when he speaks out against the harassment in the school.

A Nebraska school reports that for the fifth time since January 2003, the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues and events bulletin board has been vandalized.

Rabbis Endorse Gay Marriage

Reconstructionist rabbis endorsed same-sex marriage at their recent annual convention. Voting unanimously, 85 rabbis called for an end to laws preventing gays from marrying. They also condemned as discriminatory all efforts to bar gays from benefits given other couples, such as health care coverage.

"We're endorsing the same values of stability that Jews have always upheld," said Rabbi Richard Hirsch, executive director of the Philadelphia-based Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association.

"Anything that supports committed relationships is a good thing. What

matters is the quality of the relationship and the devotion of the people in it, not their gender."

The rabbis represent the smallest and most liberal of the four major American Jewish denominations,including the Orthodox, Conservative and Reform branches. Founded in 1968, the Reconstructionist movement has nearly 60,000 people in 104 synagogues, including three temples in South Florida.

Elsewhere, 30 African-American pastors declared the fight for gay civil rights is nothing like the 60s civil rights movement. "To equate a lifestyle choice to racism demeans the work of the entire civil rights movement," the Rev. Clarence James said. Keith Boykin, president of the National Black Justice Coalition, said he finds the opposition "annoying", adding "I'm actually kind of tired of this discussion. "It's so old." Coretta Scott King is not opposed to same-sex marriages, she recently announced. House Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), representing san Francisco, is the first high-ranking Democrat to publicly support civil marriage for same-sex couples.

Hawaii Supreme Court Hears Transgender Case

Hawaii Civil Rights Commission seeks to extend the state's sex-discrimination laws to protect workers who behave as the opposite sex.

A four-year-old dispute over whether the commission can investigate complaints from transgender and transsexual individuals will be heard by the Hawaii Supreme Court. The key is whether illegal sexual stereotyping is limited to a person's biological sex or also applies to a person's chosen sex.

"It is clear that sex encompasses more than anatomy or genitalia," the commission argued in its court brief. "At a minimum, sex must also include sexual desire, sexual orientation, and the use of sex or gender stereotypes."

Approximately 300 people in Hawaii have had medical operations to change their sex, and one in 1,000 individuals exhibit some gender-identity variance, officials say. Last year, 610 employment-discrimination claims were filed by individuals who believe they are covered by these class descriptions.

In the last three years, 26 companies in the Fortune 500 have banned discrimination based on "gender identity and express ion." Sixty-seven cities and counties have similar protections. Six states - California, Kentucky, Minnesota, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island and New Mexico — have laws prohibiting gender stereotypes and discrimination in the workplace. Four more states - New York, Connecticut, New Jersey and Massachusetts - have court and administrative rulings offering similar protections.

Getting Hitched in Vermont

By Winnie McCroy

From San Francisco to New York, gays and lesbians line up outside City Hall in the hope they will be allowed to get married in a ceremony that won't be annulled by state decree.

Meanwhile, to the north, the beautiful mountains of Vermont call out as if to say, whether marriage takes two years or ten, you can always head to the Green Mountain state for a good old-fashioned civil union. And the picturesque towns of Stowe and Waterbury are the perfect backdrops. Whether you and your honey want to tie the knot, or just want to escape for some summer fun, the friendly locals will make sure your time is memorable.

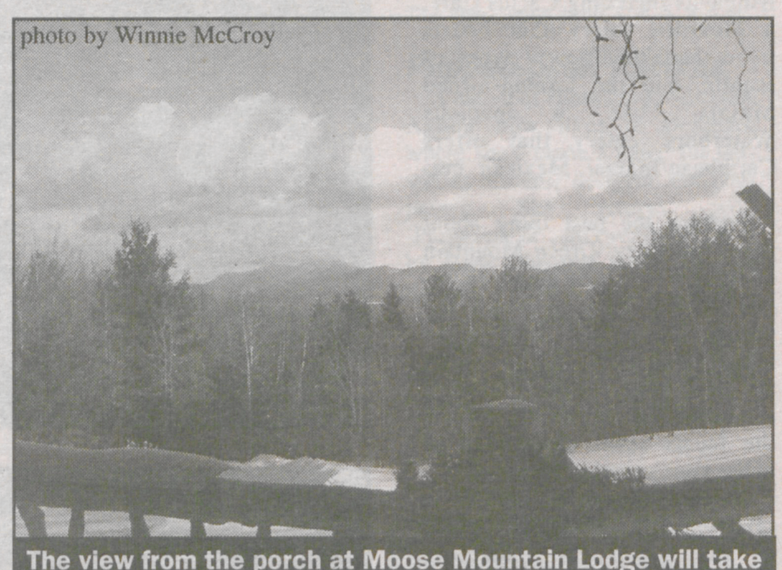

photo by Winnie McCroy

The view from the porch at Moose Mountain Lodge will take your breath away.

Although winter in Vermont can last until late May, eventually, the shareholders of Mad River Glen stow their skis and hit the slopes with mountain bikes or hiking boots! At this community-owned mountain, summertime means the fast, diesel-powered single chair lift, one of the oldest in the country, gets retrofitted to accommodate bikes, and the mountain fun continues!

If you're a fan of hiking, biking, hunting or fishing, you'll want to stay at the Moose Meadow Lodge in Waterbury. In addition to luxury accommodations at this log-cabin style B&B, longtime partners Willie Docto and Greg Trulson offer 86 private acres of prime hiking, beautiful mountain views and use of a stream-fed trout pond. With a little coaxing, Trulson will let you hitch a ride on his ATV to the Sky Loft, an enclosed pagoda on the top of the neighboring mountain.

Stay for a picnic, and hike down at your leisure. Or, stop at The Store in Waterbury, a popular place for civil unioners to register, and get a gourmet picnic lunch to go. Walk on the path that follows the river until you locate the perfect spot to lunch.

Keep walking, and eventually, you'll run into the beautiful 1824 House, a beautiful old-fashioned B&B with modern amenities. Partners Karl Klein and John Lumbra strive to make guests feel comfortable, and the queen-sized beds and antique furnishings in spacious rooms freshly painted in earth tones do the trick. Soak in the outdoor hot tub while Lumbra prepares one of his gourmet dinners. Whether you are celebrating

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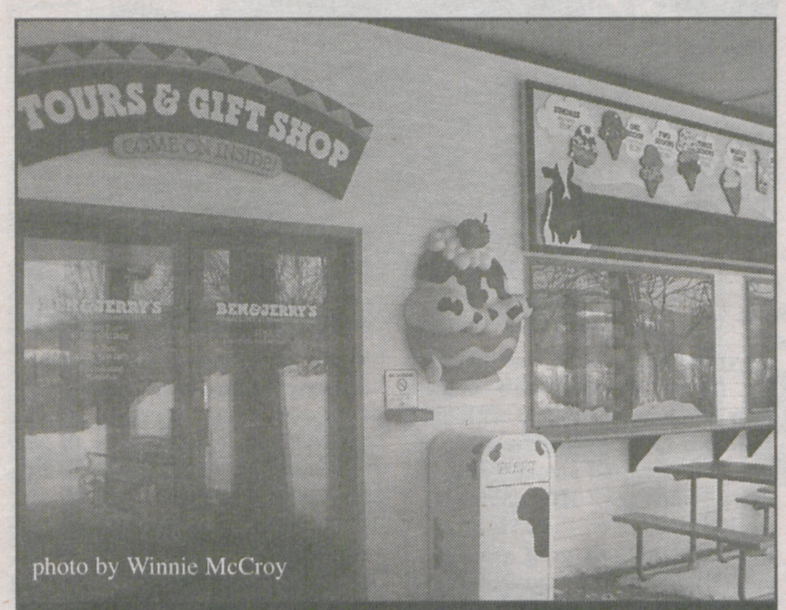

photo by Winnie McCroy

Ben & Jerry's factory tour is a sweet ending to any day

photo by David Garten

Moose Mountain's rustic log cabin style will make you hungry for adventure!

Larry Kramer continued

increased 12.4 percent. As in 2001, this increase occurred only among men, suggesting that this increase occurred particularly among men who have sex with men. For 12 consecutive years, syphilis cases declined among women and non-Hispanic blacks.

Kramer closed with saying, "HIV and AIDS is now a plague and we should start calling it a plague. It was allowed to go from nothing to a plague because evil people did not want to attend to it."

Any volunteers? Need (free) condoms and lube? Are you HIV-positive and want to talk about how not to infect others? Are you HIV-negative and want to stay that way?

Call AIDS Community Alliance at 1-800-867-1550. Help is available for the asking.

Lambda Car Club continued

boasting 10,000 vendors covering 135 acres. Club founder Ball hosts the club for the Hershey event, where a Lambda tent with a rainbow flag high above can easily be spotted. Members are served a catered luncheon during the show.

The club is looking towards more activity with the region's lgbt organizations. For example, the club last summer held a car show for the youth at Common Roads at Midtown Harrisburg's Broad Street Market. Central PA Pride 2003 proved to be the club's best turnout, where Gov. Ed Rendell personally inspected each car.

Contact John Ball, 717.238.9766; e-mail centralpalcc@aol.com.

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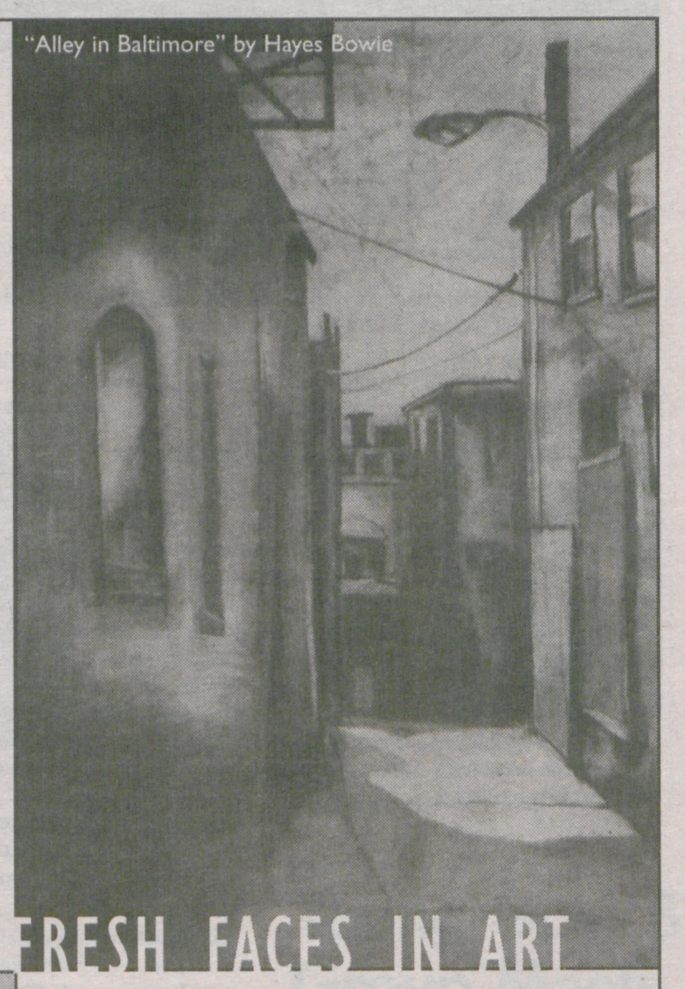
"Alley in Baltimore" by Hayes Bowie

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Or, go out on the town and hit the popular lesbian-owned establishments including Cactus Cafe, a Mexican eatery that boasts more than 30 different types of tequila, and the lesbian-owned Masala Cafe, a spacious Waterbury eatery that offers Caribbean/Indian/ Mexican cuisine.

Perhaps the best thing about these two cozy, Green Mountain towns are that just about everyone is gay-friendly. From the young, hip couple running the quaint Waitsfield Inn to owner Archie at doggie-themed Gracie's restaurant in downtown Stowe, the locals seem determined to make your vacation memorable.

If your memories include a civil union, there's no better place to stay than the charming Timberholm Country B&B Inn. This rustic, sprawling lodge is cozy enough for the two of you, but can accommodate your friends and family. Of the states' 80 civil unions this year, 61 were performed at Timberholm by

Moose Meadow's own justice of the peace, Trulson.

Timberholm co-owner Darrick Pitstick says, "We get people who've been together for 50 years who come here to tie the knot. It

is symbolic, but is so much more for them." Pitstick will make your honeymoon special with his delicious breakfasts of fresh waffles, quiches, and smoked applewood sausages. His secret is fresh ingredients - the flour is from a neighbor's grist mill, the cider and maple syrup from another local, the eggs and produce from a nearby farm, candies from women-owned Laughing Moon chocolates, and tea from out-gay John McConnell at Liberty Teas. Don't worry, though; you can work it all off just by lounging in their steamy, outdoor hot tub.

This charming inn is located conveniently among the region's prime attractions, including the Cabot cheese and Lake Champlaign chocolate outlets,

continued on page 15

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BOOK Review

Information provided by Forever Books, 41 N. Front Street, Steelton (939-5507), Central PA's only gay & lesbian bookstore.

Body Check: Erotic Lesbian Sports Stories

by Nicole Foster (Editor)

Taking you inside your favorite fantasy, editor Nicole Foster brings together the best of the best in an explosion of sexy, sweaty, erotic action between women basketball players, hockey players, soccer players, swimmers, boxers, runners, horseback riders, and more. You dreamed it, and hear it is!

They Say She Tastes Like Honey: A Novel

byMichelle Sawyer

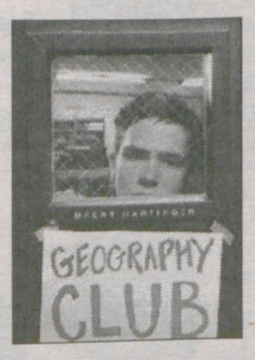
Fortysomething Macy is a rich, beautifully dressed, sought-after Sigourney Weaver look-alike who packages lesbian cruises for those who can afford them and enjoy her. She works too hard, drinks too much (despite serious asthma and declining health health), and grieves the imminent loss of her longtime best friend to liver cancer. Nothing prepares Macy for how she feels when a much younger, badly dressed woman she rescues from a mugger quickly becomes integral to her life.

Rebel Yell: Stories by Contemporary Southern Gay Authors

(Gay Men's Fiction)

by Jay Quinn (Editor)

Rebel Yell continues the tradition of Southern Literature with the work of contemporary gay men. Here you'll find works by contemporary gay authors such as: Robin Lippincott, Jameson Currier, Walter Holland, John Trumbo, Andrew Beierle, George Singer, Jeff Mann, and editor Jay Quinn, whose own story, 465 Acres, examines one man's rebellion against the long-held expectations of farm and family.



Geography Club

by Brent Hartinger

Russel is gay, and he kknows he better keep it a secret, or he'll be a total outcast in his small-town high school. But then he discovers that there are others like him- including Min, his longtime best friend, and her lesbian lover, as well as gorgeous, popular jock star Kevin. Seven of them form a support group (the "Geography Club" is their cover-up name), and for a short time, life is blissful.

Theatre Roundup

Open Stage Presents "WomenSpeak Festival" And Common Roads, Others Honored

In other areas of the country, theater mostly consists of plays by "dead white men."

But in Harrisburg each June, women take center stage thanks to Open Stage's immensely popular "WomenSpeak Festival". In its fifth year, the festival is the place to see and hear what women think. The festival runs June 3 - June 26, Thursdays – Saturdays, 8 p.m. at Open Stage of Harrisburg located on the street level of the Walnut Street Garage in downtown Harrisburg.

The line-up begins with "Parallel Lives" (The Kathy and mo Show) featuring Terri Mastrobuono and Camilla Schade. It's a comic tour de force whisking audiences through an outrageous universe where everything upright and sensible about gender, love, funerals, religion, sex, Shakespeare and moisturizer is challenged.

The production played to standing-room-only audiences last year and is back by popular demand. The show runs June 3, 4, 5, 8 p.m.

Puppetspeak Returns

A native of Harrisburg, Adrienne Agnew now lives in Denmark where she's made a name for herself as a scenic designer and puppeteer. She returns with 'Puppetspeak", an evening of tales by Hans Christian Andersen told through Agnew's puppets and featuring Lisa Haywood.

The show is a perfect evening out for mothers and daughters and runs June 10, 11,12, 8 p.m.

Vagina Monologues.

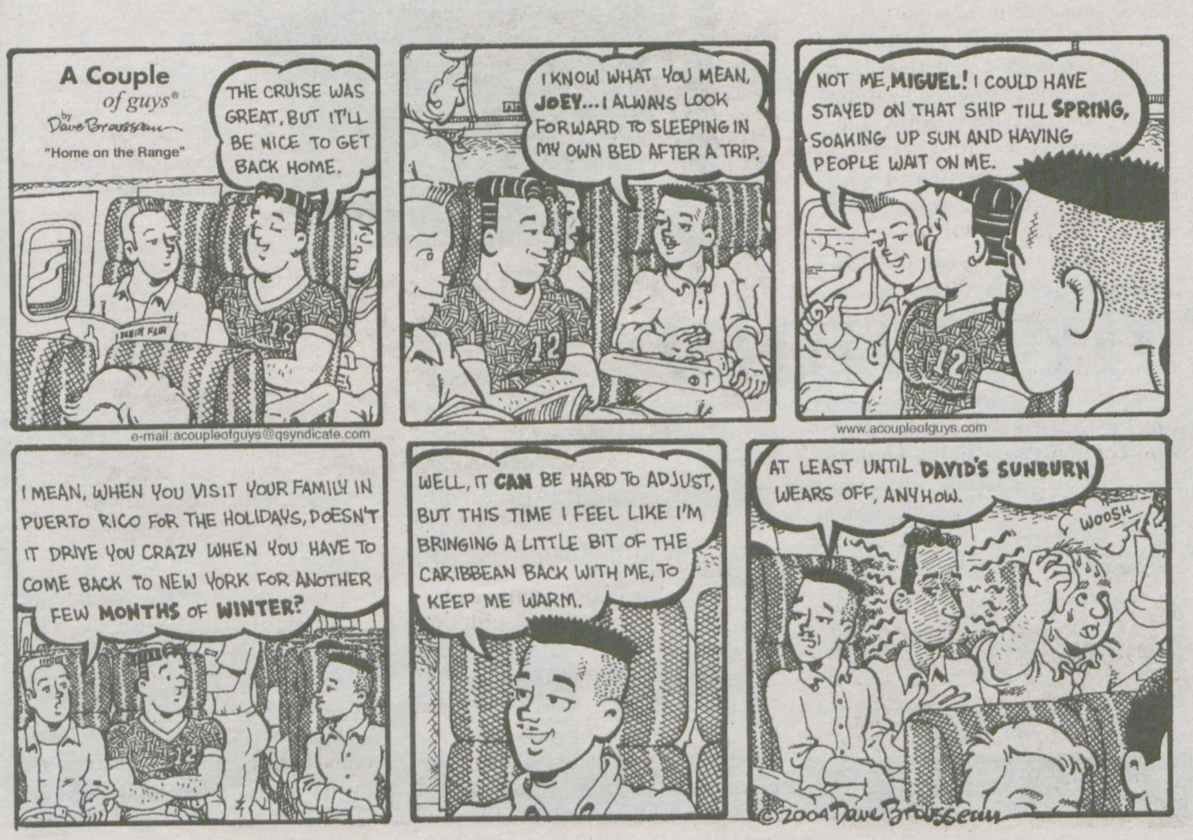
An Obie Award-winning whirlwind tour of a forbidden zone, Eve Ensler's "The Vagina Monologues" holds the third festival's third spot. Hailed by the *New York Times* as "funny" and "poignant", Monologues dives into the mystery, humor, pain, power, wisdom, outrage and excitement buried in women's experiences. Produced by R/K Productions and performed by six talented women, the show runs June 17,18,19, 8 p.m.

Philadelphia artist Jennifer Blaine

Philadelphia-based playwright and performance artist Jennifer Blaine joins WomenSpeak for it's final weekend June 24-26 with her one-woman show, SORRY. Blaine takes an irreverent look at human behavior through the personas of more than 30 characters as she explores why women often apologize for everything – even when they don't have to.

Ttickets are $22, $18 for senior citizens and students. Student and Senior rush tickets can be purchased one hour before each performance. A 4-performance series subscription is also available for $72 – a savings of 18%. Series tickets can be used anyway you like. Inofmration at the box office - 717-232-6736.

On each Friday night of the festival, Open Stage will present the Women Who Care Award to outstanding leaders in our community. This year's honorees are Rafiqyya Muhammad, founder of Ngozi; Selby and Heather Doughty; Ann Van Dyke; and Carol Reisinger, Executive Director of Common Roads.


A Couple of guys®
by Dave Broussard
"Home on the Range"
THE CRUISE WAS GREAT, BUT IT'LL BE NICE TO GET BACK HOME.
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, JOEY... I ALWAYS LOOK FORWARD TO SLEEPING IN MY OWN BED AFTER A TRIP.
NOT ME, MIGUEL! I COULD HAVE STAYED ON THAT SHIP TILL SPRING, SOAKING UP SUN AND HAVING PEOPLE WAIT ON ME.
e-mail: acoupleofguys@qsyndicate.com
www.acoupleofguys.com
I MEAN, WHEN YOU VISIT YOUR FAMILY IN PUERTO RICO FOR THE HOLIDAYS, DOESN'T IT DRIVE YOU CRAZY WHEN YOU HAVE TO COME BACK TO NEW YORK FOR ANOTHER FEW MONTHS OF WINTER?
WELL, IT CAN BE HARD TO ADJUST, BUT THIS TIME I FEEL LIKE I'M BRINGING A LITTLE BIT OF THE CARIBBEAN BACK WITH ME, TO KEEP ME WARM.
AT LEAST UNTIL DAVID'S SUNBURN WEARS OFF, ANYHOW.
WOOSH
©2004 Dave Broussard

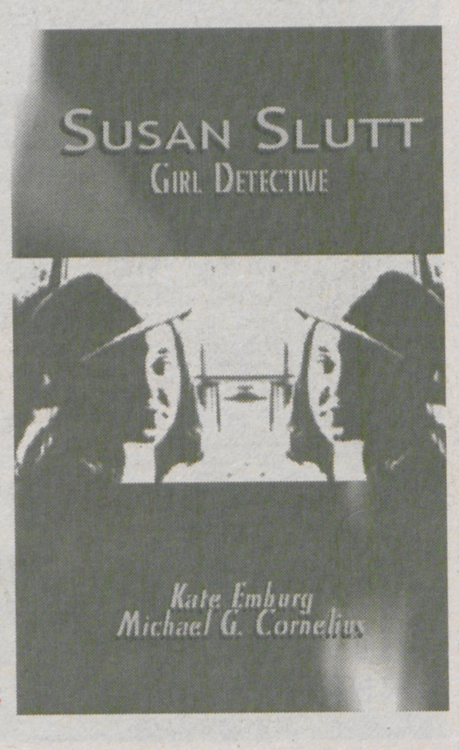
Book Review
Susan Slutt, Girl Detective

by Kate Emburg & Michael G. Cornelius

Who's the greatest girl detective since the invention of home-perm kits? Ask Wilson College's Michael G. Cornelius.

Vineyard Press recently released *Susan Slutt, Girl Detective* by Kate Emburg and Michael G. Cornelius. A hilarious, gender-bending spoof of the juvenile detective genre

continued below



Civil Wars: A Battle for Gay Marriage by David Moats

Reviewed by Eric Ledell Smith

"Timely" describes this book. Since publication in February 2004, gay marriages in New Paltz, New York, California and Massachusetts have captured worldwide attention. Indeed, the recent flood of gay marriages in San Francisco so upset President George W. Bush that he has proposed that the U.S. Constitution be amendment specifically to restrict marriage to a man and a woman.

Bush's statement launches the issue of gay marriage into this year's presidential campaign. Whether it becomes a pivotal election issue for Kerry and Bush remains to be seen. It is clear, however, that the New York, San Francisco, and Massachusetts affirmation of gay marriage was preceded by the battle for gay marriage in Vermont. And it is Vermont, and not so much America that this book is about.

Civil Wars is a journalist's attempt to document the struggle for gay marriage in Vermont. Journalist David Moats, (who is straight), is an editorial writer for the *Rutland* (Vermont) *Herald.* He followed the gay marriage struggle in Vermont closely, writing a series of *Rutland Herald* editorials in favor of same-sex unions for which the newspaper was awarded its first Pulitizer Prize.

Moats says "I then went back to learn what had really happened, discovering who brought about the story and what they went through from a personal and political point of view. The result was this book."

The people "who brought about the story" include "the six people who brought the lawsuit that was the catalyst for events, their dedicated legal team, the justices of the Vermont Supreme Court, the legislators, Governor Howard Dean, the activists and the ordinary people from all walks of life."

Here's the book's core. The Vermont legal struggle occurred between 1997 and 2002. In July 1997, three gay and lesbian couples sue for marriage licenses. The State of Vermont presented their arguments against gay marriage. But in December 1997, Judge Linda Levitt dismisses all but one of the state's arguments against gay marriage. That was the argument that a couple unites in matrimony for the purpose of procreation. Since same-sex couples can't procreate with one another, then they can't marry, said the state.

In January 1998 the three couples in the lawsuit appealed to the Vermont Supreme Court where in December 1999 the court rules in favor of the couples. It also ordered the state legislature to grant equal benefits or full legal marriage to same-sex couples. Then-Governor Howard Dean signs the Civil Unions Law in April 2000 and the law takes effect in July 2000. Afterwards, thousands of gay and lesbian couples marry in Vermont.

Moats spends much time detailing how individuals such as openly gay Vermont lawmaker Bill Lippert and Nancy Shelton, the anti-gay Republican lawmaker got elected and what the battle meant for them personally and professionally. Almost everybody's character is analyzed so that the ensuing struggle has a "soap opera" quality to it. Will Bill Lippert triumph? Will Dean sign the bill? How will the conservative Christians exert their influence upon the legislature and the courts?

The book is an odd mix of oral history and legal history. As a result, Moats tends to get muddled in the narrative and at times, it seems that he is writing a story for Vermonters in his newspaper. Moats' book seems anticlimactic today when gay and lesbians are marrying in other states. Yet *Civil Wars* is an important book in gay and lesbian history even if it is only because we can learn from the experience of people in Vermont.

Vermont continued

the Vermont Teddy Bear store, and of course, the Ben & Jerry's ice cream factory. You'll want to take a tour of one of the most delicious places on earth, and sit in their gazebo enjoying the complimentary cone at the end.

Sweet endings are what visiting Stowe and Waterbury are all about, and whether your vacation centers on adventure, romance, or even just shopping for antiques, one thing you can be sure of is you'll hate to see it end.

Life in the Green Mountains hearkens to a time when the whole town pitched in to help raise a barn, while at the same time providing an idyllic glimpse at a future when neighbors embrace diversity and champion civil rights for all.

MORE INFO - www.vermont-gaytourism.com

Susan Slutt continued

immortalized by such characters as Nancy Drew, the Hardy Boys, and Trixie Belden, *Susan Slutt* has already broken Vineyard Press records with the most pre-order sales in publisher's history.

A 2002 Lambda Literary Award finalist, Cornelius teaches at Wilson College, Chambersburg. Emburg authored two previous romances for teen girls, *Recipe for Love* and *The Language of Love* and co-authored of the reference text *The Girls' Series Companion.*

At 29, Cornelius is emerging as one of the most charismatic and interesting voices amongst the new generation of gay/lesbian writers. While his first novel was a spiritual journey through the emotional aspects of modern gay life, *Susan Slutt* allows Cornelius and Emburg to flex some impressive comedic muscles spinning tales about Susan, her lesbian sister Butch, a bisexual best friend Ashleigh, and a host of other queer characters as Susan solves "The Clue of the Prancing Puppet, "The Secret of the Forgotten Sissy," and nine other side-splitting detective adventures!

Give Good Voice

"Susan Slutt as a character has a small but devoted following, almost a cult. They're in touch with each other through the Vineyard Press website. I do a 'mock' interviews with Slutt that have been very popular with readers", Cornelius says. "I'm constantly giving my characters their voice and allowing them to go onto paper. They, like a pregnant woman, get bloated with stretch marks and just are ready to give birth through their words.

Available from Vineyard Press,
631) 473-6814;
vineyard@portjeff.net;
www.vineyardpress.com.

Young Gay/Bi Men's Group Meets May 20

Looking for something a little different? Want to help create a sense of community?

"Tank" is a new organization for young gay and bisexual men in the Harrisburg and Lancaster area. The new group organizes social events and activities for young gay and bisexual guys to meet and hang out. "We're looking for ways to create community," says one of its leaders.

A special meeting is scheduled for May 20, 7 p.m., 401 Division St. Harrisburg. Just getting started, "Tank" is looking for men 18-29 who want to get involved and meet other guys.

All guys 18-29 are welcome to attend the social events and gatherings which will start this summer.

Contact: tankhbg@yahoo.com; call (717) 215-8437; or write to Tank, 401 Division Street, Suite 100, Harrisburg, PA 17110.

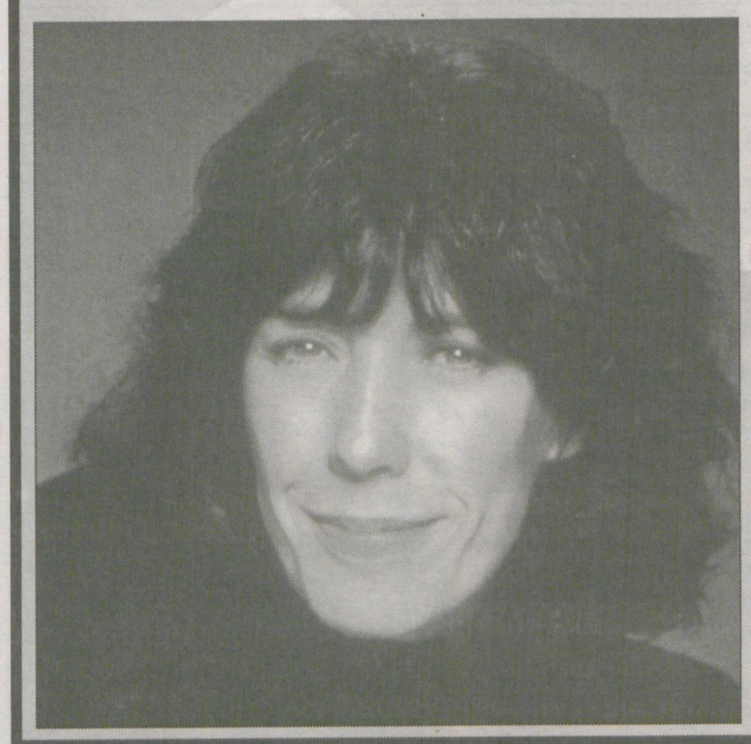
JUST ADDED!

TICKETS NOW ON SALE TO MEMBERS. GENERAL PUBLIC ON SALE DATE: FRIDAY, APRIL 30.

Boney James

Wednesday, June 9

The funky soul and light pop mixed in his stylized sax playing makes Boney a smooth-jazz fav and winner of a Soul Train music award.



Lily Tomlin

Thursday, July 22

The award-winning, versatile actress and comedienne from television, nightclubs, and the theater brings her cache of characters and humor for this exclusive performance.

All shows at 7:30 pm.

STRAND-CAPITOL PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
BOX OFFICE: 717-846-1111
WWW.STRANDCAPITOL.ORG

2003-2004 Season

Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of Harrisburg, inc.

Alternative CENTRAL

START

your membership and subscription

The Switchboard is always looking for help with its programs. It takes money and volunteers to operate the Switchboard. If you would like to help by volunteering to serve on the phone line, helping financially through membership or a donation, give us a call or write GLSH and use the attached form. Thank you for your help.

NAME _____ PARTNER'S NAME _____

STREET ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP CODE _____

PHONE _____ E-MAIL _____

○ $20 Member ○ $25 Couple ○ $35 Sustainer ○ $50 Patron

○ $100 Benefactor ○ $250 Underwriter ○ Donation_____

Membership includes one year subscription of "Alternaive Central." Mailed in an unmarked first class sealed envelope. Make check payable to GLSH. Mail to GLSH, 1300A North Third Street, Harrisburg, PA 17102

I am interested in volunteering for:_____the telephone line_____committees/projects

_____Please send me information about listing my business/organization with the Switchboard

Please return this form with payment. GLSH is a 501(c) non-profit organization. All contributions are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.

717.234.0328

1 Good Eye Photography (717) 623.2544

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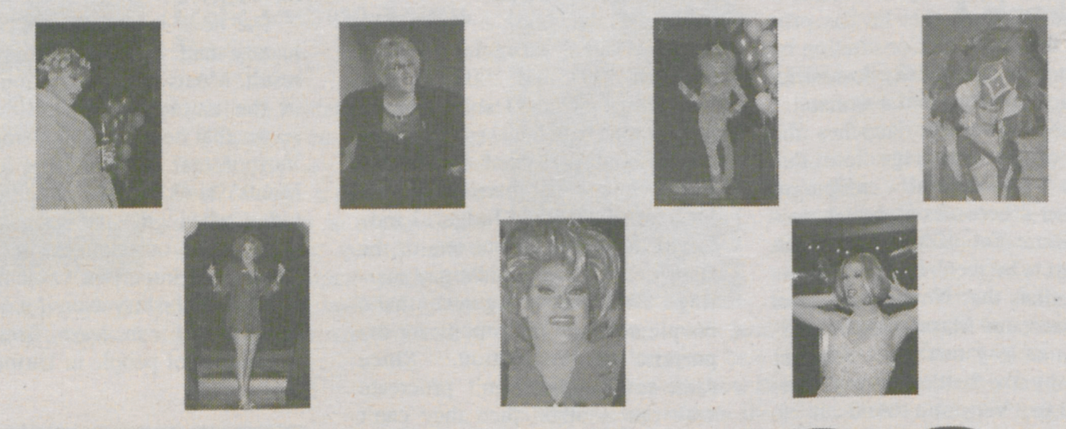
FOR ENTERTAINMENT
AT CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA

Our Voices Will Be Heard

PRIDE

Featuring many
Central Pa favorites including:



Biscuit, Makayla Summers Diamond, Starr Powers, April Showers, Ito, Glenda, Tequila Daniels, and many others!!!

*PHOTOGRAPHS ON MAILER MAY NOT APPEAR IN CALENDAR - FOR ADVERTISING PURPOSES ONLY

CALENDAR BEGINS JULY 2004 AND RUNS THROUGH JUNE 2005

ONLY $ 15.00

Send your check order by May 25th to reserve your copy:
GLSH -CALENDAR
1300A N. 3rd St.
Harrisburg, PA 17102

Calendars will be available for pick-up by June 15, 2004 at the following locations:

1 Good Eye Photography Studio
MCC of the Spirit
Pink Lizard
Tally Ho
Brownstone
Neptune
Pride Office
Strawberry
Velvet Rope

Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of Harrisburg, Inc.

AskGLSH.org

Hours: M-F 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.

717.234.0328

Get Connected to your Community

Bar, Nightclubs & Restaurants

704 Strawberry
704 N. 3rd St.
Harrisburg, PA 17102
Phone: 717.234.4228
Wheelchair Accessible:
No information available
Hours: Sun thru Sat 2 p.m.
to 2 a.m.
Bar. Alternative Lifestyle - Conversation Bar, Mixed, but mostly men. Young crowd.

Altland's Ranch
8505 Orchard Road
Spring Grove, PA 17362
Wheelchair Accessible:
No information available
Hours: Friday and Saturday - 8:00pm till 2:00am
Website: www.altlandsranch.com
Featured in Central PA Magazine's Best of 2001. Never A Cover Charge on Friday Night! $2.00 Cover Charge on Saturday Night. Take Route 30 West, following the signs toward Gettysburg. On the west side of Thomasville will be York Airport. Approximately 4 miles past York Airport on the left side, you'll see the "Altland's Ranch Coca-Cola" sign. Turn left at the sign which will be Orchard Road and follow Orchard Road approximately 1 3/4 miles. The entrance to Altlands Ranch will be on the right.

Brownstone Lounge
412 Forster St
Harrisburg, PA 17102
Phone: 717.234.7009
Wheelchair Accessible:
No information available
Hours: M - F 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.
Sa & Su 1 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Bar. Neighborhood Bar. Great place. Mixed crowd.

Chumley's
108 W. College Ave
State College, PA 16801
Phone: 814.238.4446
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Mon - Sat. 5 p.m. til 2 a.m.
Sun 6 p.m. til 2 a.m
Bar. College crowd. Mixed

Club168
168 S. Main St
Manheim, PA
Phone: 717.665.1960
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Mon-Tue-Wed: 4 p.m. - 2 a.m., Thu-Fri-Sat: 11 a.m.
Bar/Restaurant. Men and Women, 35+crowd, Karaoke and live entertainment in 2 lounges. Intimate seating areas around the dance floor. Billards and Hightech arcade. Available for private parties and performances up to 200.

Cordials B & B of New Hope
143 Old York Road
New Hope, PA 18938
Phone: 2158623919
Toll Free: 8772191009
Fax: 2158623917
Contact: Bob Stephens
Wheelchair Accessible: no
Hours: any
Email: cordialsbb@aol.com
Website: www.cordialsbb.com
Gay owned and operated, Set in the heart of New Hope, our inn offers the charm of the past and the comforts of present. Each of our six rooms includes private baths, luxurious queen-size beds, air conditioning, cable TV, balconies and decks that overlook statuary, nestled among hemlocks, pines and annual flowers. All our guests are invited to exit through our back gate and enter into the world of the Raven, with its great Restaurant, Gay bar and Pool. Also the Chartwheel (gay dance club & restaurant)right up the road.

Peachey's
144 East Fourth Street
Williamsport, PA 17701
Phone: (570) 326-3611
Wheelchair Accessible:
No information available
DJ / Food / 2 bars and dance floor. Pool table, jukebox and darts.

Stallions Entertainment Complex
706 North Third St
Harrisbrug, Pa 17102
Phone: 717.232.3060
Fax: 717.236.2435
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Hours: Mon - Sat 7 p.m. - 2 a.m.
Website: www.stallionsclub.com
Stallions is Entertainment Complex & Shimmer 18 & Over Dance Club are in Downtown Harrisburg, right across the from the State Capital Museum. Stallions is open Monday to Saturday from 7pm to 2am. Shimmer 18 and Over Dance Club is open Friday & Saturday Nights 10pm to 2am. Whether you are looking to play pool, dance the night away, meet new friends, enjoy a night out with friends, or to enjoy a cocktail in our Video Lounge at Heaven

Sundown Lounge
429 Mulberry Street
Lancaster, PA 17603
Phone: 717 392-2737
Contact: Sue Ann Snodgrass
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Mon-Sat 3pm-2am
Mon-Wed "pool nights" Thur-Sat "Live DJ" - Dancing

Tally Ho
210 Orange St
Lancaster, PA 17604
Phone: 717.299.0661
Wheelchair Accessible:
No information available
Men and Women, cruise bar/ dancing

The Neptune Lounge
268 North St
Harrisburg, PA 17102
Phone: 717.233.3078
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Sun thru Sat 4 p.m.
to 2 a.m.
Bar. Mature crowd. Neighborhood bar. Where it all started in Harrisburg.

The Pink Lizard Night Club
891 Eisenhower Blvd
Harrisburg, PA 17111
Phone: 717.939.1123
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Wed thur Sat 7 p.m.
to 2 a.m.
Website: pinklizard891@aol.com
Bar/Nightclub. A place for everyone. LGBT and straight. Mostly women. Drag Shows. Owners do a lot for the LGBT community.

The Velvet Rope Night Club
36 W. 11th Ave
York, PA 17404
Phone: 717.812.1474
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Tu - Sun 6 p.m. to 2 a.m.
Website: www.clubvelvetrope.com
York, PA's, Premier Gay and Lesbian Nightclub. Large New York City Style Nightclub. Mixed crowd. Large dance floor.

Twist
1170 Hwy 315
Plains, PA 18702
Phone: 570.970.7500
Contact: Jonathan Grimes
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Hours: Sun thru Sat 8 p.m.
to 2 a.m.
Email: twistbar@aol.com
Website: www.twistbarpa.com
Bar. Wilkesbarre/Scranton area

Bed & Breakfast

Battlefield Bed & Breakfast
2264 Emmitsburg Road
Gettysburg, PA 17325
Phone: 717 334 8804
Contact: Florence Tarbox
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email:
info@gettysburgbattlefield.com
Website:
www.gettysburgbattlefield.com
1809 Civil War home on the Gettysburg Battlefield with daily history programs and Friday night ghost stories. Delicious full breakfasts. All private baths. Secluded 30 acre setting five minutes from restaurants and the Gettysburg National Park Visitor Center.

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393 Valley Raod
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Etters, PA 17319
Phone: 717-938-6077
Fax: 717-938-5898
Contact: Joan E. Tily
Wheelchair Accessible: No
Hours: Anytime
Email: cannainnbandb@aol.com
Website: www.cannainnbandb.com
Hi, Canna Country Inn is a lesbian owned B&B 8 miles South of Harrisburg. We currently purchased the Inn 4 months ago, an 1840 renovated barn.

Coral Reef Guesthouse - Fort Lauderdale
2609 NE 13th Court
Fort Lauderdale, Fl 33304
Phone: 954-568-0292
Toll Free: 888-ENJOY IT
Fax: 954-568-1992
Contact: Jeff Boss
Wheelchair Accessible: no
Email:
info@coralreefguesthouse.com
Website:
www.coralreefguesthouse.com
Ideally located gay-owned and operated upscale male accommodations close to the beach, restaurants and the Galleria Mall. Rooms are scrupulously clean, tastefully decorated, and overlook the beautifully landscaped courtyard and clothing optional pool-area, which includes a 14-man Jacuzzi.

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143 Old York Road
New Hope, PA 18938
Phone: 2158623919
Toll Free: 8772191009
Fax: 2158623917
Contact: Bob Stephens
Wheelchair Accessible: no
Hours: any
Email: cordialsbb@aol.com
Website: www.cordialsbb.com
Gay owned and operated, Set in the heart of New Hope, our inn offers the charm of the past and the comforts of present. Each of our six rooms includes private baths, luxurious queen-size beds, air conditioning, cable TV, balconies and decks that overlook statuary, nestled among hemlocks, pines and annual flowers. All our guests are invited to exit through our back gate and enter into the world of the Raven, with its great Restaurant, Gay bar and Pool. Also the Chartwheel (gay dance club & restaurant)right up the road.

The Arrowheart Inn
3021 Valley View Dr.
Bangor , PA 18013
Phone: 610.588.0241
Contact: Ed Hill
Wheelchair Accessible: no
Hours: 24 hours a day 7 days a week
Email: aroheart@ptd.net
Website: www.arrowheartinn.com
Bed & Breakfast

Cultural and Performing Arts

Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus
PO Box 60426
Harrisburg, PA 17106
Phone: 717.234.4825
Contact: Lucy Vincent
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Hours: Monday evenings at 7 p.m. (Call for location & dir
Email: info@cpwchorus.org
Website: www.cpwchorus.org
Brings together a diverse group of women, united by the joy of singing, to celebrate and empower women and to affirm a positive image of lesbians and feminists.

Open Stage of Harrisburg
223 Walnut Street
Harrisburg, PA 17101
Phone: 232-OPEN
Contact: Donald Alsedek
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Hours: regular business hours
Email: dalsedek@hotmail.com
Website: www.openstagehbg.com
Open Stage of Harrisburg is a professional regional theater and studio school dedicated to developing and maintaiing a company of artists to present thought-provoking theater in an intimate setting before diverse audiences.

Medical Health Services

Capital Region Health System @ Hamilton Health Center
1821 Fulton Street
Harrisburg, PA 17104
Phone: (717) 230-3949
Fax: (717) 230-3961
Contact: Linda Dodson
Wheelchair Accessible: yes
Hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Email: lsloane@hamiltionhealth-center.com
Free or low-cost comprehensive HIV primary care, including internal medicine provided by an HIV Specialist, dental care, mental health and substance abuse counseling, care coordination, nutrition, adherence, on-site pharmacy, lab, x-ray, and free transportation. Patient psycho-social education and groups, including HIV Basics, secondary prevention, universal precautions for families, and patient wellness. Educational sessions, including: HIV/STD risk-reduction (3-4.5 hour course for high-risk individuals, especially for clients in Drug & Alcohol Recovery Programs), HIV Clinical Basics for Professionals, and HIV Basics for Lay-Persons. Free HIV Testing and Counseling.

Community Medical Associates
3601 N. Progress Ave
Harrisburg, PA 17110
Phone: 717.652.7266

Helplines and Crisis Intervention

Contact Helpline - 717)657.4400

Dauphin County Crisis – 717.232.7511

Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of Harrisburg, Inc. – 717.234.0328. Support Hours: M-F: 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. Some weekend support. Email: info@AskGLSH.org.

Holy Spirit Crisis – 717.763.2222

Lancaster Shelter for Abused Women - 717.299.1249

Contact: Dr. Little or Dr. Beck
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Hours: M - F 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Family medicine

Penn State Hershey Medical Center
PO Box 850
Hershey, PA 17033
Phone: 717.531.8478
Contact: Julie
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Reporductive Endocrinology

REACCH Program, PinnacleHealth
Community Health Center
2645 N. 3rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110
Phone: 717-782-2750
Fax: 717-782-4761
Contact: Victoria Stueckroth
Wheelchair Accessible: yes
Hours: 8:00am to 4:30pm
Mon.-Fri.
Email: vstueckroth@pinnacle-health.org
The REACCH Program (Resource Education and Comprehensive Care for People with HIV) provides medical services and comprehensive care to those persons who are infected with HIV. Presently, services are provided by a board certified infectious disease physician, nurse practitioner, nurse educator, pharmacist, registered dietician, social worker, financial counselor, and case worker from AIDS Community Alliance. The REACCH Program currently receives Ryan White Care Act Title II and Title III funding to help pay for medical care for men, women, adolescents and children.

Jack Gaughen Realtor ERA
117 Beacon Drive
Harrisburg, PA 17112
Phone: 717.761.4800
Toll Free: Cell: 717.608.2561
Fax: 717.761.1495
Contact: Dave Heffron
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Hours: 8:30 A.M to 10:00 P.M.
Email: dave.heffron@jgr.com
Website: www.jgr.com
Over 20 years experience listing and selling real estate. Call me to preview my marketing plans.

Jack Gaughn Realtor ERA
3915 Market Street
Camp Hill, PA 17011
Phone: 612-5154
Fax: 761-1495
Contact: Brad Cleland
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Hours: Any
Email: brad.cleland@jgr.com
Website: www.jgr.com
As a member of the gay community, I understand the desires and concerns we all share.

Retail/ Services

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Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of Harrisburg, Inc.
AskGLSH.org
Hours: M-F 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m.
717.234.0328
Get Connected to your Community

Social Organizations & Recreational Clubs

Business Assn. Of Gays & Lesbians (BAGAL)
PO Box 135
Harrisburg, PA 17108 Phone: 717.612.8445 or 717.303.0425
Contact: Judy Chambers or Ted Martin
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: bagalpa@aol.com
Business, professional & social networking organization. BAGAL is a networking organization designed to link the area's gay business community. Opportunities to scoialize and meet new people are always part of BAGAL's bimonthly events

Gay & Lesbian Organization of Reading & Allentown
P O Box 541
Bethlehem , PA 18016
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: glorainpa@aol.com
Non-profit social group for adult men & women, singles & couples. 1 or 2 activities each month including potlucks, bowling, movie nights, hikes, dinners, etc.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual & Transgendered Community C
241 W. Chase St
Baltimore, MD 21201
Phone: 410.837.5445
Contact: Jacqueline Robarge
Wheelchair Accessible: no
Email: info@glccbaltimore.org
Website: www.glccbaltimore.org
Support groups, social groups and special events. Publishes Baltimore gay paper & coordinates annual PRIDE event.

Harrisburg Gay Men's and Women's Volleyball
3rd and Bridge St
New Cumberland, PA
Phone: 717.233.3172
Contact: Jim
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. - 9.30 p.m.
Baughman United Methodist Church, New Cumberland. Cost: $2.50

Harrisburg Ladies Night Out
PO Box 266
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Phone: 717.232.8382
Contact: Judy Chambers
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available

Lambda Car Club Int'l Central PA Region
3623 Green Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110
Phone: 717.238.9766
Contact: John Ball
Wheelchair Accessible: no
Hours: Meet monthly at different members houses, call for
Email: buickbum2@aol.com
Organization of GLBT people who are interested in collectable automobiles

Pride of the Lehigh Valley
PO Box 20804
Lehigh Valley, PA 18002
Phone: 610-770-6200
Contact: Bren Hoelman
Wheelchair Accessible: n/a
Hours: 24x7
Email: brenhoelman@pridelv.org
Website: www.pridelv.org

Susquehanna Club
Wheelchair Accessible:
No information available
Email: camp@susq.org
Website: www.susq.org
Group camping open to LGBT people and their friends.

Susquehanna Valley Bears
PO Box 61478
Harrisburg, PA
Contact: John Bowermaster
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Email: secretarysvbears@yahoo.com or info@svbears.com
Website: www.svbears.com

The Pennsmen, Inc.
PO Box 401
Harrisburg, PA 17108
Phone: 717-232-3785
Contact: Steven James
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: jesjames71@comcast.net
The Pennsmen, Inc are Central PA's glbt leather/levi/kink social organization. Membership is open to anyone over the age of 21 with an interest in the lifestyle. Meetings are held on the second Sunday of each month at the 704 Strawberry.

The Rainbow Bowling League

Phone: 763-8444
Contact: Mark or Robert
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: Thursday 8:45 P.M.
The Rainbow Bowling League bowls every Thursday at 8:55 p.m. We bowl out of the ABC East Lanes on Eisenhower Blvd in Harrisburg and are considered a "mixed" league: in other words, both men and women are welcome. We would like to invite anyone interested in joining or you have friends that are interested in bowling on Thursday evenings. Call for more details. Openings for individual bowlers, teams and substitutes.

Women's Circle
c/o Bobbi Carmitchell
Locust Lane Music, P.O. Box 8301
Lancaster, Pa 17604
Phone: 717.872.4512
Contact: Bobbi Carmitchell
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: bobbi@womenscircle.org
Website: www.womenscircle.org
The Women's Circle is a new initiative within the greater Harrisburg women's community. Our long-term vision is to develop a non-profit community center where lesbians can gather in comfort and safety, gain access to valuable resources, engage in educational and cultural programming, and be empowered to live to their fullest potential. Women's Circle does not aim to replace existing resources, but to bring them together. It is our hope that we can work with existing organizations working to serve women and augment those services already available, as well as help women find the services that they require. Initial results from those that have completed our assessment survey indicate a "high need" for: coming out support; domestic partner advocacy; counseling; adoption guidance (not the services themselves); legal/political advocacy; mentoring; a community bulleting board; a women's reference library/reading room; and, child care.

Travel

Coral Reef Guesthouse - Fort Lauderdale
2609 NE 13th Court
Fort Lauderdale, Fl 33304
Phone: 954-568-0292
Toll Free: 888-ENJOY IT
Fax: 954-568-1992
Contact: Jeff Boss
Wheelchair Accessible: no
Email: info@coralreefguesthouse.com
Website: www.coralreefguesthouse.com
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Cordials B & B of New Hope
143 Old York Road
New Hope, PA 18938
Phone: 2158623919
Toll Free: 8772191009
Fax: 2158623917
Contact: Bob Stephens
Wheelchair Accessible: no
Hours: any
Email: cordialsbb@aol.com
Website: www.cordialsbb.com
Gay owned and operated, Set in the heart of New Hope, our inn offers the charm of the past and the comforts of present. Each of our six rooms includes private baths, luxurious queen-size beds, air conditioning, cable TV, balconies and decks that overlook statuary, nestled among hemlocks, pines and annual flowers. All our guests are invited to exit through our back gate and enter into the world of the Raven, with its great Restaurant, Gay bar and Pool. Also the Chartwheel (gay dance club & restaurant)right up the road.

Omega World Travel
2118 S. Queen St
York, PA 17403
Phone: 717.699.2094
Contact: Jeffery Almoney
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Hours: M - F 9 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Email: jalmoney@owt.net
Travel agency

Women's Services

Lancaster Shelter for Abused Women
PO Box 359
Lancaster, PA 17608
Phone: 717.299.1249
Contact: Deb Bolton
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Website: www.caplanc.org/programs
Non-profit domestic violence services

Lavender Letter
PO Box 266
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Phone: (717) 232-8382
Contact: Judy Chambers
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: info@lavenderletter.com
Website: www.lavenderletter.com
The Lavender Letter is a monthly calendar of events and newsletter with a website serving lesbians in the Central Pennsylvania area.

Lebanon Family Health Services
834 Cumberland St
Lebanon, PA 17042
Phone: 717.273.6741
Contact: Joellen Rakow
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Hours: M & W 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Tu, Th & Fri 9 a.m. to 5 p
Health Care organization and accepts WIC special supplemental nutrition program. Reproductive Health Care, family life & sexuality education

Penn State Hershey Medical Center
PO Box 850
Hershey, PA 17033
Phone: 717.531.8478
Contact: Julie
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Reproductive Endocrinology

Susan L Gilius M.S.
20 Erford Road, Suite 101
Lemoyne, PA 17043
Phone: 717.730.8555
Contact: Susan Gilius
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: M - F 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Call for insurances covered

Women's Social Groups

Harrisburg Ladies Night Out
PO Box 266
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055
Phone: 717.232.8382
Contact: Judy Chambers
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available

Women's Circle
c/o Bobbi Carmitchell
Locust Lane Music, P.O. Box 8301
Lancaster, Pa 17604
Phone: 717.872.4512
Contact: Bobbi Carmitchell
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: bobbi@womenscircle.org
Website: www.womenscircle.org
The Women's Circle is a new initiative within the greater Harrisburg women's community. Our long-term vision is to develop a non-profit community center where lesbians can gather in comfort and safety, gain access to valuable resources, engage in educational and cultural programming, and be empowered to live to their fullest potential. Women's Circle does not aim to replace existing resources, but to bring them together. It is our hope that we can work with existing organizations working to serve women and augment those services already available, as well as help women find the services that they require. Initial results from those that have completed our assessment survey indicate a "high need" for: coming out support; domestic partner advocacy; counseling; adoption guidance (not the services themselves); legal/political advocacy; mentoring; a community bulleting board; a women's reference library/reading room; and, child care.

Transgender

Renaissance Education Association, Inc.
Harrisburg, PA
Phone: 717.234.0328
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Email: eta_moore@yahoo.com
Website: www.tg-new-millennium.org/lsv_ren/lsv.asp
Lower Susquehanna Valley Chapter and National Organization to provide support & information for Transgendered individuals - 717.749.7217

continued on page 19

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LCCI Central PA Region
3623 Green Street
Harrisburg, PA 17110
238-9766

Lambda Car Club
Out on the Road
Email: CentralPaLCC@aol.com

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Business card advertisements can be place in Market Place for the cost of $85.00 per issue. Please contact Benchmark Media for business card placement. See page 3 for Benchmark Media contact information. ALL advertisements must be received by the 1st of the month prior to the publication of the next issue. AC is published every other month beginning in January and unconditionally reserves the right to reject any advertisement.

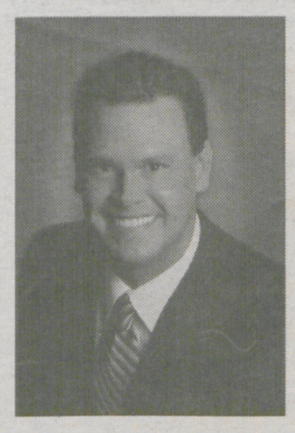
AskGLSH.org continued

Youth/ College

COLAGE Harrisburg
Harrisburg, PA 17112
Phone: 717-979-1261
Contact: Gail Mauthe
Wheelchair Accessible: Yes
Email: colageharrisburg@hotmail.com
Colage is a youth group for High School age children with GLBT parents. Our first meeting will be planned when we have gathered enough members.

Common Roads, Inc.
1300-A North Third St
Harrisburg, PA 17102
Phone: 717.920.9534
Contact: Carol Reisinger - Executive Director
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Hours: 9 AM - 4 PM
Email: info@commonroads.org
Website: www.commonroads.org
Meets at "The Center" at 1300-A North Third ST on Fridays at 7 p.m. Support, education and outreach with GLBTQ youth groups ages 14 to 22.

HAVEN Youth Group
424 Center St
Bethlehem, PA 18018
Phone: 610.868.2153
Wheelchair Accessible: No information available
Website: havenyouthgroup@hotmail.com
Youth Group



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